

Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in effect after its 18th meeting

This list of Decisions has been produced in accordance with Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) of the Conference of the Parties. It contains the Decisions (other than Resolutions) adopted at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP18, Geneva, 2019) as well as the Decisions adopted at previous meetings that remain in effect after the 18th meeting.

The Decisions in this section are grouped by subject, in accordance with Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18).

Every Decision that was adopted at CoP18 has a number starting with '18', e.g. Decision 18.1. Every Decision that was adopted at a previous meeting and remains valid is included here with its original number, e.g. Decision 14.69. If the Conference of the Parties amended a Decision at a meeting after the one at which it was adopted, the original number of that Decision is followed by the indication '(Rev. CoPXX)', where 'XX' represents the number of the meeting at which the amendment was adopted. For example, Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18) was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 16th meeting and amended at its 18th meeting.

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* For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.

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ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

Number	Title	Directed to	Text
18.1	Rules of Procedure	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	With the support of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee shall review Rule 7 2. a) and Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties and propose amendments, as appropriate, to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with the view to ensuring the effective conduct of meetings.
18.2	Conduct of Committees	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider whether the terms of reference of the Standing Committee Finance and Budget Subcommittee should be annexed to the new resolution on <i>Establishment of Committees</i> .
18.3	Conduct of Committees	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall prepare draft guidance to assist chairs of working groups established by the Committees in fulfilling their tasks for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.4	Access to funding	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are invited to provide non-reimbursable loan of personnel services to the CITES Secretariat noting that the salary and administrative fee of non-reimbursable loan personnel shall be covered by the Party, with such personnel remaining under the administrative authority of the sending Party. Non-reimbursable loan personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.
18.5	Access to funding	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) engage with their Global Environment Facility (GEF) national focal points in order to take part in the national GEF processes and facilitate use of allocated GEF funding through the Global Wildlife Program (GWP); b) contribute to the development and implementation of GEF projects that may have components related to the implementation of CITES, by communicating with their national GEF counterparts and informing them of relevant CITES requirements and processes; and c) monitor the progress of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and the national projects, where applicable, to enhance Parties' ability to meet their obligations under CITES.
18.6	Access to funding	<i>Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities</i>	All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial or technical assistance for ensuring the effective implementation of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
18.7	Access to funding	<i>Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-</i>	In providing financial assistance, Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to take into consideration the administrative and financial management support needed to ensure that the funded

		<i>governmental organizations and other entities</i>	activities are managed in an efficient, effective and accountable manner, and that they do not affect the Secretariat's core administrative tasks.
18.8	Access to funding	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) continue to participate in the Program Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Program to ensure that GEF projects under the programme are, as far as possible, aligned with CITES Decisions and Resolutions and contribute to the enhanced implementation of the Convention; and b) provide technical advice and in-kind support to Parties in the development and implementation of their GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program.
18.9	Access to funding	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank and other relevant financial institutions, cooperation agencies and potential donors, shall organize a wildlife donor roundtable with a particular focus on sustainable use, to: a) share information on existing funding programmes on wildlife; b) understand the long-term financial needs of developing countries to implement the Convention; and c) explore the potential for scaled-up financial resources to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife.
18.10	Access to funding	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report on the progress on the implementation of Decisions 18.4 and 18.5 and any recommendations, as necessary, to the Standing Committee and at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.11	Access to funding	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the progress of implementation of Decisions 18.4 through 18.10 and make recommendations as necessary to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.12	Sponsored Delegates Project	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) continue to apply clear selection criteria, taking into account the various possible options for the selection criteria and additional ways to prioritize beneficiary Parties, including the guidelines of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD-DAC) and the prioritization of small island developing States and least developed countries; b) explore further the practical arrangements for the provision of support under the Sponsored Delegates Project for delegates attending the meetings of the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees; and c) bring any recommendations to the attention of the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
18.13	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to continue provide funding support to the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) for the implementation of its Strategic Programme 2016-2020, and any newly developed future Strategic Programme, to ensure that the

			Consortium continues to take a leading role in providing coordinated global support to the law-enforcement community.
18.14	Tree species programme	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding their experiences, lessons learned and recommendations on: a) past work under the ITTO-CITES programme for implementing CITES for tropical timber species and its contribution to their implementation of the Convention; and b) work under the CITES Tree Species Programme for implementing CITES for tree species listed in Appendix II.
18.15	Tree species programme	<i>Directed to the Plants Committees</i>	The Plants Committee shall consider any reports by the Secretariat on the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme and provide recommendations as appropriate to the Secretariat and the Standing Committee.
18.16	Tree species programme	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider reports by the Secretariat and the Plants Committee on the CITES Tree Species Programme, and, taking into account other discussions relating to capacity-building activities, provide recommendations to the Secretariat, Parties and organizations, on the CITES Tree Species Programme and its long-term future.
18.17	Tree species programme	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) collect information on Decision 18.14 and make it available to the Plants Committee; b) report progress made with the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme to the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee; c) report, in consultation with the Standing Committee, on progress made with the implementation of the CITES Tree Species Programme to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and d) continue cooperation with organizations working on forest related matters, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), to strengthen the support to Parties for implementing the Convention for listed tree species.
18.18	Review of the ETIS Programme	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall include in the terms of reference for the review of the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) programme the issue of overlapping reporting requirements created under Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i> and Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports</i> and the challenges posed by the different data-sharing policies, and work closely with the consultants carrying out the review to identify possible solutions.
18.19	Review of the ETIS programme	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report the findings of the review of the ETIS programme requested by the Standing Committee, and any recommendations emanating from the review, at the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee.

18.20	Review of the ETIS programme	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the findings and recommendations reported by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.19 and make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference the Parties.
18.21	MIKE and ETIS programmes	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall develop a proposal for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting on possible approaches to address the financial and operational sustainability of the MIKE and ETIS programmes.
18.22	MIKE and ETIS programmes	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the proposal developed by the Secretariat in terms of Decision 18.21 and make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of Parties.

STRATEGIC MATTERS

Number	Title	Directed to	Text
18.23	CITES Strategic Vision	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties' Management Authorities are encouraged to communicate with their national Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) focal points to seek to ensure CITES aims are reflected in the outcomes of their domestic processes to develop contributions to the post-2020 biodiversity framework anticipated to be adopted by the Parties to the CBD in 2020.
18.24	CITES Strategic Vision	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) undertake a comparative analysis in order to illustrate the linkages between the adopted <i>CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030</i> and the goals within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, once adopted, the post-2020 biodiversity framework, and present their analysis to the Standing Committee for their information; and b) review the objectives of <i>CITES Strategic Vision 2021-2030</i> against the current CITES Resolutions and Decisions and identify to the Animals and Plants Committee as appropriate, and to the Standing Committee those objectives (if any) where the current CITES policies as found in the Resolutions and Decisions do not appear to address activities in support of achieving that objective of the CITES Strategic Vision.
18.25	CITES Strategic Vision	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	The Animals and Plants Committees shall consider the review prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 18.24, paragraph b) and provide their recommendations to the Standing Committee.
18.26	CITES Strategic Vision	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall: a) in consultation with the Chairs of the Animals and Plants Committees and taking into account the information provided by Parties via the Report on Implementation as well as the comparative analysis prepared by the Secretariat under Decision 18.24, paragraph a), make recommendations on new or revised indicators of progress to be included in the <i>CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030</i> , for consideration by the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and b) review the information provided by the Secretariat in Decision 18.24, as well as the views of the Animals and Plants Committees, and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.27	Review of the Convention	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the need for a targeted review of the implementation of the Convention, taking into consideration the prior review of the Convention and existing CITES review mechanisms, and, if appropriate, prepare a costed proposal, including draft terms of reference, for consideration by the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.28	Appendix-I listed species	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to available resources, the Secretariat shall:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) contract consultants, as appropriate, to undertake the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) conduct a rapid assessment of the conservation status of, and legal and illegal trade in, species included in Appendix I; ii) in consultation with range States, produce detailed assessments on the conservation status, threats, relevance of trade, ongoing <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation strategies or recovery plans and funding/resources available or required for the species concerned and selected; and iii) produce a report identifying and prioritizing those Appendix-I species that could potentially benefit from future action under CITES; and b) produce a report with its recommendations to the Animals and Plants Committees for consideration at their 32nd and 26th meetings, respectively.
18.29	Appendix-I listed species	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	The Animals and Plants Committees shall review the report and recommendations submitted by the Secretariat pursuant to Decision 18.28, paragraph b), and formulate recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to the range States and consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.30	Language strategy for the Convention	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall, with the assistance of the Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider implications of adding Arabic, Chinese and Russian to the working languages of the Convention, including for the administration, budget, implementation and effectiveness of the Convention; b) particularly consider benefits and challenges specific to adding each one of these languages as working languages of the Convention, taking note of document CoP18 Doc. 8 on <i>Draft resolution on language strategy for the Convention</i> and of United Nations General Assembly resolution 71/328 on <i>Multilingualism</i>; and c) report its conclusions and recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
17.57 (Rev. CoP18)	Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* <i>* For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</i>	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) examine the terminology used in different Resolutions and Decisions when referring to "indigenous peoples", " local communities" or "rural communities"; and b) make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on whether there is need for consistency of terminology across these Resolutions and Decisions.
18.31	Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* <i>* For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</i>	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) establish an intersessional working group to consider how to effectively engage indigenous peoples and local communities* in the CITES processes, taking into account the discussions from the last intersessional period and any information provided pursuant to Decision 18.32 and present its findings and recommendations to the Standing Committee.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) when establishing the intersessional working group, endeavour to achieve regional balance of Parties and observers, and give special consideration to participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities*; c) develop non-binding guidance that proponent Parties may use, as appropriate, in consulting with indigenous peoples and local communities* as part of the consultations that may take place on proposals to amend the Appendices. d) make recommendations on the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES processes to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.32	<p>Engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities* <i>* For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</i></p>	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) issue a Notification inviting Parties to provide information on their experiences and lessons learned in engaging indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES processes; b) consult and collaborate with relevant organizations and experts to gather information on experiences and lessons learned to complement information received from Parties under paragraph a) above; and c) compile the information received from the Parties and other relevant organizations and provide a summary to the Standing Committee.
18.33	<p>Livelihoods* <i>* For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</i></p>	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) collate or conduct new case studies, using the standard template, that demonstrate how sustainable use of CITES-listed species contributes to the livelihoods of the indigenous peoples and local communities* involved in such use, including trade, and to the conservation of the species. Include examples of facilitating such involvement by wildlife-related authorities and other stakeholders and submit them to the Secretariat; b) engage indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES decision-making and implementation processes at the national level to better achieve the objectives of the Convention; and c) where appropriate, incorporate issues related to CITES implementation and livelihoods into national wildlife conservation and socio-economic development plans, as well as in relevant projects being developed for external funding, including funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Global Wildlife Program.
18.34	<p>Livelihoods* <i>* For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</i></p>	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall establish an intersessional working group on CITES and livelihoods, which will work in collaboration with the Secretariat to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) monitor the progress made by Parties in implementing Decision 18.33 to engage indigenous peoples and local communities* in CITES decision-making processes to better achieve the objectives of the Convention; and b) review the report of the Secretariat on the progress made under Decisions 18.35 and on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES and</i>

			<i>livelihoods</i> and make recommendations, as appropriate, to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.35	<p>Livelihoods* * For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</p>	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>Subject to the availability of external financial resources, the Secretariat shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> support the collation or conduct of new case studies on CITES and livelihoods as described in Decision 18.33, paragraph a), and assist Parties to present the case studies in appropriate platforms, and in formats and manners that are most effective for targeted audiences; commission an independent review, with inputs of experts from different disciplines, of relevant case studies on CITES and livelihoods, both existing and new, as well as existing guidelines on sustainable use of wildlife and engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities*, to identify best practices; based on the review, prepare guidance on how to maximize the benefits for indigenous peoples and local communities* of CITES implementation and trade in CITES-listed species; taking into account past work on traceability reported in document CoP18 Doc. 42, explore the possibility of using registered marks of certification, existing and new, and other traceability mechanisms, for products of CITES-listed species produced by indigenous peoples and local communities* consistent with CITES provisions, in order to enhance conservation and livelihood outcomes; facilitate the organization of a workshop to review the guidance developed as described in paragraph c) above, to present new case studies on CITES and livelihoods, and to facilitate the exchange of experiences in collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations; organize the production of outreach materials, including publications and short videos based on the case studies, to raise awareness of and promote best practices in CITES implementation and livelihoods including its contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to share such materials on appropriate platforms, including the CITES website, social media channels, external media, and exhibitions; and make efforts to establish global partnerships with relevant international and regional organizations, including conservation organizations and development agencies to work together in activities regarding CITES and livelihoods.
18.36	<p>Livelihoods* * For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</p>	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on progress made with regard to the implementation of Decision 18.35 and Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES and livelihoods</i> .
18.37	<p>Livelihoods* * For the purpose of these Decisions, "indigenous peoples and</p>	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to the availability of external financial resources, the Secretariat shall organize a joint meeting of the intersessional working group on engagement of indigenous peoples

	<i>local communities" is understood to include rural communities.</i>		and local communities* and the intersessional working group on CITES and livelihoods to support the implementation of Decisions 18.31 and 18.34.
18.38	World Wildlife Day	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider designating a future World Wildlife Day to be focused on livelihoods of indigenous peoples and rural and local communities.
18.39	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are invited to: a) provide information to the Secretariat regarding capacity-building materials and efforts that could be shared among Parties; b) utilize the CITES Virtual College to support capacity-building activities and provide the Secretariat with inputs and financial support to update and improve its services, including translation of the contents into national languages; c) use the CITES implementation reports, as well as direct expression of interest, to inform the Secretariat about their capacity needs; d) support the capacity-building efforts of other Parties by providing scholarships for in-person training or training opportunities, and by translating materials into non-working languages of the Convention; and e) share ideas, experiences, and information related to the development of a capacity building framework in response to the Notification to Parties issued by the Secretariat under Decision 18.46, paragraph a).
18.40	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	The Animals and Plants Committees shall review the report of the Secretariat called for in Decision 18.46, paragraph c), and provide input and make recommendations to the Standing Committee.
18.41	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall establish a working group on capacity-building to advise the Standing Committee on the actions outlined in Decisions 18.42 and 18.43 for the development of an integrated capacity-building framework to improve implementation of the Convention. The working group shall include, but not be limited to, participation of: members of the Standing Committee, the Animals and Plants Committees, the Budget and Finance Sub-Committee, and the Secretariat. The working group shall also include a balanced representation of Parties from each region, as well as Parties that are donors and Parties that are recipients of capacity support.
18.42	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall provide guidance to the Secretariat to refine and consolidate the areas of capacity-building efforts, taking into account the discussions on the Compliance Assistance Programme and Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews, as well as the discussion on the development of an integrated capacity building framework outlined in Decision 18.41.* * The Secretariat believes that the intention was to refer to Decision 18.41 and not 18.43.
18.43	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall undertake the following:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review Resolution Conf. 3.4 on <i>Technical cooperation</i> with the view to incorporating capacity-building needs; b) consider the inputs and recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees pursuant to Decision 18.40; and c) make recommendations, including a possible new or revised draft resolution as well as models, tools and guiding documents on capacity building, as appropriate, based on the outcome of the work in Decision 18.46 as well as documents CoP18 Doc. 21.2 and Doc. 21.3, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.44	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) collect information on capacity-building materials and efforts from Parties and others, and make them available to Parties through the CITES website; b) subject to the availability of external funding, undertake the revision and enhancement of the CITES website and of the CITES Virtual College, including selected online courses, to update the content and to improve their effectiveness in providing access to capacity-building resources to Parties; c) subject to the availability of external funding, provide compliance-related and other general capacity-building support to Parties; d) inform the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees when needs arise for their review or inputs on capacity-building materials; and e) subject to the availability of external funding, further cooperate with institutions and organizations to provide Parties with joint capacity-building assistance of relevance to CITES, and provide scholarships for in-person training or training opportunities, and translate materials into non-working languages of the Convention, for example through: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) (including each of its partners), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the International University of Andalusia (UNIA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE); and the World Trade Organization (WTO).
18.45	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	In carrying out capacity-building activities, the Secretariat shall pay particular attention to the needs of Parties identified through compliance procedures, recently acceded Parties, developing country Parties, and Small Island Developing States.

18.46	Capacity-building	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) based on document CoP18 Doc. 21.3 Annex 5 and in consultation with the Standing Committee, develop a questionnaire and issue a Notification to Parties transmitting the questionnaire to gather input to inform the development of an integrated capacity-building framework; b) liaise with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements to collect information regarding how their capacity-building efforts are targeted, accomplished, and tracked; c) prepare a report summarizing the outcomes of its implementation of Decision 18.46, paragraphs a) and b), the outcomes of the needs assessment working group summarized in document SC66 Doc. 20.2 (Rev.1), and the information on capacity-building needs provided by Parties through their implementation reports, for consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees; and d) subject to the availability of external funding and in consultation with the Standing Committee, Animals and Plants Committees, and the Budget and Finance Sub-Committee, organize a workshop that would facilitate the Standing Committee's tasks set out in Decisions 18.42 and 18.43.
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COOPERATION

Number	Title	Directed to	Text
17.55 (Rev. CoP18)	Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to strengthen synergies among biodiversity multilateral environmental agreements at the national level by, among others, improving coordination and cooperation between national focal points and strengthening capacity-building activities.
17.56 (Rev. CoP18)	Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall, with support of the Secretariat, explore options consistent with the CITES Strategic Vision to strengthen cooperation, collaboration and synergies at all relevant levels between CITES and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, its Aichi Targets and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as appropriate, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. This should involve the members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, and, as appropriate, engagement with other relevant organizations and processes, including processes under the Rio Conventions. The Standing Committee shall report on the implementation of this Decision at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.47	Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall prepare a report summarizing existing CITES Resolutions and Decisions related to synergies, partnerships and cooperation with other biodiversity-related entities, and advise on any measures to enhance the implementation of the Convention in this regard, drawing on the practices of other relevant biodiversity-related entities, together with the outputs resulting from the decisions and resolutions of their governing bodies.
18.48	Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall: a) consider the report of the Secretariat under Decision 18.47 and the merits of proposing to the Conference of the Parties any measures to enhance the implementation of the Convention through a more streamlined, cohesive, and effective approach to synergy, partnership and cooperation with other biodiversity-related entities; and b) prepare a report on its implementation of the present Decision and submit any resulting recommendations for consideration by the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.49	Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) publish and maintain updated on its website the summary of the Periodic Review proposals submitted to Conference of the Parties for amendments to Appendices I and II, taxa selected for Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II, and Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix II species, with relevant updates derived from the 23rd and 24th meetings of the Plants Committee and the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

			<p>b) in collaboration with the Plants Committee, update the report on the contribution of CITES to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) [see document CoP17 Doc. 14.6 (Rev. 1)], taking into account the analysis contained in information document PC24 Inf. 6, as well as the relevant outcomes of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and provide it to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for further consideration by the CBD at the 15th meeting of its Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>c) consult the Secretariat of CBD concerning the post-2020 future of the GSPC, and collaborate with the Plants Committee in drafting any required revision of Resolution Conf. 16.5 on <i>Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020</i>; and</p> <p>d) report on progress with the implementation of paragraphs a) to c) to the Plants Committee.</p>
18.50	Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	<p>The Plants Committee shall:</p> <p>a) consider the Secretariat's updated report as per Decision 18.49 above;</p> <p>b) in collaboration with the Secretariat and if considered appropriate, draft a revision to Resolution Conf. 16.5, taking into account the discussions under CBD regarding the post-2020 future of the GSPC, with a view to ensure that a two-way collaboration between both Conventions is reflected; and</p> <p>c) present its recommendations to the Standing Committee or the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.</p>
18.51	Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider any report prepared in response to Decision 18.50, and in coordination with the Plants Committee, convey its recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.52	Cooperation with the World Heritage Convention	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall enter into dialogue with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre with a view to developing a Memorandum of Understanding and, if considered appropriate and subject to availability of external resources, a joint programme of work.
18.53	Cooperation with the World Heritage Convention	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall submit a draft Memorandum of Understanding with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to the Standing Committee for its review, recommendations, and approval.
18.54	Cooperation with the World Heritage Convention	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the draft Memorandum of Understanding transmitted by the CITES Secretariat on cooperation with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and provide its recommendations or approval.
18.55	Black Sea bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus ponticus</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall continue its collaboration with the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area (ACCOBAMS) for effective conservation of CITES-listed species of cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea, in the context of, and in accordance with,

			Resolution Conf. 13.3 on <i>Cooperation and Synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i> .
18.56	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) include the African Carnivores Initiative in its proposals for the new CMS-CITES joint work programme for the period 2021-2025, to be developed in the context of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on <i>Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i>; b) subject to the availability of external resources, and in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat and, as appropriate, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) develop a dedicated Programme of Work for the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI), taking into consideration the outcomes of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS, and the First Meeting of Range States for the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative; and submit the draft Programme of Work to the Standing Committee for its review and appropriate revision; and ii) support range States of African carnivores in implementing relevant CITES Resolutions and Decisions through the ACI; c) report, as appropriate, on the implementation of this Decision to the Animals Committee and to the Standing Committee; and d) report on the implementation of this Decision to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.57	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the draft Programme of Work submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.56, paragraph b) i) and make appropriate recommendations or revisions and consider any reports of the Secretariat on its implementation of Decision 18.56, and formulate guidance and recommendations, as appropriate, to range States and the Secretariat.
18.58	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall consider any report of the Secretariat on its implementation of Decision 18.56, and formulate guidance and recommendations, as appropriate, to range States and the Secretariat.
18.59	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	<i>Directed to range States of African carnivores</i>	Relevant range States of African carnivores are urged to work through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative to implement CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.
18.60	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	<i>Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations</i>	Parties are invited to recognize the importance of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative in implementing CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by the Initiative, and in seeking synergies as appropriate to implement complementary CMS resolutions and decisions.

18.61	Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative	<i>Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations</i>	Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to support relevant African range States, through the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative, in their implementation of CITES Resolutions and Decisions relating to the species covered by this Initiative.
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INTERPRETATION AND IMPLEMENTATION MATTERS

GENERAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Number	Title	<i>Directed to</i>	Text
18.62	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties with legislation in Category 2 or 3 under the National Legislation Project (NLP) are urged to submit to the Secretariat as soon as possible, and no later than by the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee, in one of the three working languages of the Convention details of appropriate measures that have been adopted for the effective implementation of the Convention. Such Parties are also urged to keep the Secretariat informed of legislative progress at any time and are called on to provide a written update of the legislative progress to the Secretariat, at the latest, 90 days before the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee.
18.63	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties with legislation in Category 1 under the National Legislation Project are encouraged to inform the Secretariat of any relevant legislative developments and to provide technical or financial assistance to Parties affected by Decision 18.62, either directly or through the Secretariat.
18.64	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	At its 73rd and 74th meetings, the Standing Committee shall review the progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention. With the assistance of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee may identify additional Parties that require its attention as a priority and shall pay particular attention to these Parties. The Standing Committee shall take appropriate compliance measures with regard to Parties affected by Decision 18.62 that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention or to take significant and substantive steps to do so. For Parties that have acceded to the Convention since August 2011, the Standing Committee may decide to allow more time to adopt appropriate measures.
18.65	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	Such compliance measures may include a recommendation to suspend trade with Parties affected by Decision 18.62 that have failed to adopt appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the Convention, in particular Parties identified as requiring attention as a priority. Any recommendation to suspend trade with the Party concerned shall take effect 60 days after it is agreed, unless the Party adopts appropriate measures before the expiry of the 60 days or takes significant and substantive steps to do so.
18.66	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee will provide support to the Secretariat as required in the implementation of Decision 18.67, paragraph c).

18.67	National laws for the implementation of the Convention	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) compile and analyse the information submitted by Parties on measures adopted before the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19) to fulfil the requirements laid down in the text of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>National laws for implementation of the Convention</i>; b) assist the Standing Committee in reviewing progress of Parties in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and in identifying additional Parties requiring attention as a priority; c) review and revise as necessary all guidance materials provided under the National Legislation Project available on the CITES website, including the CITES Model Law, to ensure that such guidance materials are consistent with the obligations under the Convention and its relevant Resolutions, focusing on the aims of paragraph 1 a) of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15), and submit a report on the revisions made to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee; d) subject to external funding, provide legal advice and assistance to Parties on the development of appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention, including legislative guidance for and training of CITES authorities, legislative drafters, policymakers, the judiciary, parliamentarians and other relevant government officials responsible for the formulation and adoption of CITES-related legislation; e) subject to external funding, cooperate, in the provision of legislative assistance, with the legal programmes of United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as regional organizations, such as the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the League of Arab States (LAS), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP); e) report at the regular meetings of the Standing Committee on Parties' progress in adopting appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Convention and, if necessary, recommend the adoption of appropriate compliance measures, including, recommendations to suspend trade in specimens of CITES-listed species; and f) report at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress made with regard to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) and Decisions 18.62 to 18.67.
18.68	Compliance Assistance Programme	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide financial or technical support to Parties subject to compliance mechanisms and other related compliance measures as specified in Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i> to further strengthen their institutional

			<p>capacity, including the possibility of deploying short-term 'placements' or 'secondments' to the Parties concerned and peer capacity-building activities as part as the Compliance Assistance Programme (e.g. bilateral cooperation and mentoring by fellow authorities of another Party); and</p> <p>b) provide to the Secretariat any relevant information on bilateral or multilateral financial or technical assistance provided to Parties subjected to CITES compliance measures to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the recommendations of the Standing Committee.</p>
18.69	Compliance Assistance Programme	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall establish, subject to the availability of external funding, a Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) and:</p> <p>a) issue a Notification to the Parties requesting information on any compliance assistance currently provided by governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental entities;</p> <p>b) upon request, conduct technical missions and facilitate the organization of in-country assistance coordination mechanisms to selected Parties eligible to benefit from the Compliance Assistance Programme;</p> <p>c) in consultation with the Masters Course in 'Management and Conservation of Species in Trade, the International framework' hosted by the International University of Andalucía and other relevant masters, explore the possibility and feasibility of training and deploying short term consultants or interns to assist Parties benefiting from the Compliance Assistance Programme;</p> <p>d) in consultation with the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and development aid agencies of potential donor countries, explore the possibility and feasibility of strengthening the compliance-based component of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and other relevant programmes, by developing a subprogramme on CITES Compliance Assistance taking into account the recommendations of the Standing Committee and the needs of the Parties concerned;</p> <p>e) in collaboration with the Montreal protocol and other relevant multilateral environment agreements, conduct a rapid assessment of the lessons learnt from the implementation of a Compliance Assistance Programme under the Multilateral Fund for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol and any other similar initiatives that specifically provide compliance-related assistance; and</p> <p>f) report to the Standing Committee on the progress made in the implementation of Decisions 18.68 and 18.69 and on the feasibility of mainstreaming a compliance assistance component in the Global Wildlife Program of GEF and other relevant programmes.</p>
18.70	Compliance Assistance Programme	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall monitor progress in the implementation of the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP); consider whether Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i> should be amended to reflect the creation of a CAP and assess the report submitted by the Secretariat regarding the collaboration with the Masters</p>

			Course in 'Management and Conservation of Species in Trade, the International framework' hosted by the International University of Andalucía and other relevant masters; the feasibility of mainstreaming a compliance assistance component in the Global Wildlife Program of GEF and other relevant programmes; and report its findings and recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.71	Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) consider the 'Outlook and recommendations' regarding country-wide significant trade reviews, as articulated in the Annex to document AC30 Doc. 12.3/PC24 Doc. 13.3, and the resources required to undertake such reviews, and provide advice as to whether the scientific and management issues identified in the country-wide Review of Significant Trade for Madagascar can be integrated into other existing CITES mechanisms or programme activities, including capacity-building activities the proposed Compliance Assistance Programme, or whether a new mechanism should be developed to provide targeted support to Parties at a national level; b) determine how Parties might qualify or apply for support under a 'country wide review' under existing mechanisms or any new mechanism; and c) prepare a report on its findings and recommendations, for consideration by the Animals and Plants Committees at their 32nd and 26th meetings respectively, and subsequently for the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting.
18.72	Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	The Animals and Plants Committees shall review the report by the Secretariat and provide recommendations to the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
18.73	Country-wide Significant Trade Reviews	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the report and the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees at its 74th meeting, and in consultation with the Secretariat, make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which may include proposals for amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i> or other existing resolutions, or a new resolution.
17.108 (Rev. CoP18)	Review of Significant Trade	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat, within six months of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and building on the work done to date, shall develop, test and establish a Review of Significant Trade Tracking and Management database as an essential tool for the effective implementation and transparency of the process.
17.109 (Rev. CoP18)	Review of Significant Trade	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat, subject to the availability of funds, within six months of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, shall develop a user-friendly guide to the Review of Significant Trade that can also be included in the initial letter to range States.

17.110 (Rev. CoP18)	Review of Significant Trade	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat, subject to the availability of funds, within nine months of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, shall develop a comprehensive training module on the Review of Significant Trade (including case studies as appropriate).
18.74	Review of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i> , with a view to, <i>inter alia</i> , reorganizing to improve usefulness and readability, updating and clarifying where needed, and identifying gaps. Based on its review, the Standing Committee shall make recommendations as appropriate to revise Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) and make recommendations to address gaps identified, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.75	Annual illegal trade reports	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funds, contract the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to establish, host and maintain a database for the storage and management of illegal trade data collected through annual illegal trade reports, meeting the requirements Annex 1 to document CoP18 Doc. 36 on <i>Storage and management of illegal trade data collected through the Parties annual illegal trade reports</i> .
18.76	Annual illegal trade reports	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are urged, in compliance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports</i> , to submit an annual illegal trade report by 31 October 2020 and 31 October 2021 covering actions in the preceding years and in accordance with the report format distributed by the Secretariat.
18.77	Enforcement	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to actively pursue and promote the use of the <i>Integrity Guide for Wildlife Management Agencies</i> to strengthen responses to and overcome the risks and challenges posed by corruption.
18.78	Enforcement	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other partner organizations within the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to promote the use of the <i>Integrity Guide for Wildlife Management Agencies</i> and to, upon request, support Parties in implementing activities and measures to address the risks and challenges posed by corruption.
18.79	Enforcement	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, convene a Task Force on illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species, consisting of representatives of Parties affected by illicit trafficking in such specimens, ICCWC partner organizations, other intergovernmental organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), regional enforcement networks and other experts. The Task Force should work to develop strategies to combat illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species, including measures to promote and further strengthen regional and international cooperation. The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of this Decision and the work of the Task Force and take into consideration any recommendations made by the Standing Committee.

18.80	Enforcement	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the Secretariat's report called for in Decision 18.79 and make recommendations as appropriate.
18.81	Wildlife crime linked to the Internet	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to, as may be needed, draw upon the capacity established at the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation in Singapore, for advice and assistance in their efforts to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet.
18.82	Wildlife crime linked to the Internet	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to, as may be needed, make full use of the guidelines developed by INTERPOL, on how to combat wildlife crime linked to the Internet, in their investigation of cases of wildlife crime linked to the Internet.
18.83	Wildlife crime linked to the Internet	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties should: a) inform the Secretariat in the event that any changes that pertain to wildlife crime linked to the Internet are made to their national legislation, as well as of any other relevant domestic measures; b) submit information to the Secretariat on websites adhering to codes of conduct to address and prevent illegal trade in wildlife; c) inform the Secretariat of any best practice models that pertain to regulation of online marketplaces and social media platforms; d) publish the results of scientific research on the correlations between use of the Internet and the rate of wildlife crime, and communicate these results to the Secretariat; and e) inform the Secretariat of any trends in wildlife crime linked to the Internet identified, including any changes in trade routes and methods of shipment that have been observed.
18.84	Wildlife crime linked to the Internet	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) continue the engagement with its partners in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), regarding best practices and model domestic measures for addressing wildlife crime linked to the Internet; and b) share on the <i>Wildlife crime linked to the Internet</i> webpage on the CITES website, as appropriate, information received from Parties in accordance with Decision 18.83, ICWC partner agencies in accordance with Decision 18.84, paragraph a), and other relevant organizations or experts, regarding measures and activities implemented to address wildlife crime linked to the Internet. c) amend all relevant Resolutions and Decisions to ensure consistent use of the term 'wildlife crime linked to the internet' with regard to reference to combating wildlife cybercrime and include as appropriate this terminology on the CITES glossary and the new webpage on <i>Wildlife crime linked to the internet</i> on the CITES website.
18.85	Wildlife crime linked to the Internet	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report on the implementation of Decisions 18.83 and 18.84 to the Standing Committee, and subsequently to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.

18.86	Demand reduction to combat illegal trade	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) develop CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species, taking into consideration the results of the study commissioned by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 17.48, paragraph a), and any recommendations resulting from the workshop convened in accordance with Decision 17.48, paragraph b); b) convene a workshop for Parties and experts to review the guidance and to provide training to the Parties in designing and implementing demand-reduction campaigns to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species; c) submit the draft CITES guidance on demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species to the Standing Committee for its consideration; and d) support interested Parties in implementing demand-reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species and provide necessary technical cooperation to those Parties on an ongoing basis.
18.87	Demand reduction to combat illegal trade	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall review the guidance developed in accordance with Decision 18.86 and make recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.</p>
18.88	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	<i>Directed to Parties of West and Central Africa</i>	<p>Parties of West and Central Africa should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) draw upon the information and recommendations provided in the West and Central Africa Threat Assessment Report available as Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 34 and the recommendations in Annex 2 of document CoP18 Doc. 34, to strengthen CITES implementation and address wildlife crime; and b) identify priority actions that could benefit from support and present these to the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICWC), donors and the development community, in order to seek support to implement them.
18.89	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	<i>Directed to Parties of West and Central Africa</i>	<p>Parties in West and Central Africa identified as affected by illegal trade in wildlife within the region should engage in regional and bilateral activities to share information on their national legislative and regulatory measures to address such illegal trade, exchange experiences and best practices, and identify opportunities for regional and cross-border cooperation and joint actions, including where appropriate the formulation of national or regional action plans as anticipated by paragraph 14 a) ii) and 10 f) of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Compliance and enforcement</i>, taking into consideration the provisions of paragraph 15 q) of the same Resolution.</p>
18.90	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	<i>Directed to Parties importing CITES specimens from West and Central Africa</i>	<p>Parties importing CITES specimens from West and Central Africa are encouraged to assist their counterparts in West and Central Africa, by implementing measures that will address wildlife crime and support legal trade that is limited to sustainable levels, in particular by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) supporting efforts to determine and ensure sustainable levels of trade through scientific studies that can facilitate the making of robust non-detriment findings;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) closely scrutinizing consignments of CITES-listed species imported from West and Central Africa and accompanying CITES documents to ensure that illegal species are not laundered into legal trade; and c) as a priority, raise any concerns about imports with the exporting State, or with the Animals Committee, Plants Committee, Standing Committee, or the Secretariat.
18.91	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	<i>Directed to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations</i>	Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to provide financial and technical assistance to Parties in West and Central Africa and mobilize resources to address the matters identified in the West and Central Africa Threat Assessment Report available as Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 34; the recommendations in Annex 2 to document CoP18 Doc. 34, the guidelines in information documents SC70 Inf. 2 and SC70 Inf. 3; and any further recommendations made by the Standing Committee.
18.92	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the report from the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.93, paragraph d) and progress made by Parties in West and Central Africa in strengthening CITES implementation and make further recommendations as appropriate; and b) consider any report from the Plants Committee, in response to the recommendation agreed at its 70th meeting, concerning the inclusion of <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> from all range States in the Review of Significant Trade and make recommendations as required.
18.93	Wildlife crime enforcement support in West and Central Africa	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) draw to the attention of relevant United Nations agencies, the African Union, the Commission of Central African Forests, the Global Environmental Facility, and development agencies, the West and Central Africa Threat Assessment Report available as Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 34 and the recommendations in Annex 2 to document CoP18 Doc. 34, and the guidelines in information documents SC70 Inf. 2 and SC70 Inf. 3; and encourage these to be taken into consideration in the development of work programmes or activities initiated by these entities in the two subregions; b) subject to external funding, work with its partners in the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICWC) to support Parties in West and Central Africa in addressing illegal trade in wildlife, including addressing the matters identified in the West and Central Africa Threat Assessment Report available as Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 34; the recommendations in Annex 2 to document CoP18 Doc. 34, the guidelines in information documents SC70 Inf. 2 and SC70 Inf. 3; and any further recommendations made by the Standing Committee; c) subject to the availability of external funds and upon request from Parties, undertake general and targeted capacity-building activities to strengthen the effective

			<p>implementation of CITES in the two subregions, taking into consideration the contents of information documents SC70 Inf. 2 and SC70 Inf. 3;</p> <p>d) report, as appropriate, to the Standing Committee on the results of the activities conducted in accordance with Decision 18.93 paragraphs a) to c); and</p> <p>e) the Secretariat shall give priority to the guidelines agreed by West African parties as contained in information documents SC70 Inf. 2 and SC70 Inf. 3 in the course of the implementation of its capacity-building work.</p>
18.94	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to source, transit and destination Parties for Malagasy <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and <i>Diospyros</i> spp.</i>	<p>Source, transit and destination Parties for specimens of species of the genera <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i> occurring in Madagascar are urged to:</p> <p>a) enforce all the measures that are recommended by the CITES Standing Committee concerning commercial trade in specimens of these species from Madagascar, including suspensions of such trade;</p> <p>b) effectively manage timber stockpiles of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and <i>Diospyros</i> spp. from Madagascar; and</p> <p>c) provide written reports describing progress made with implementation of paragraphs a) and b) of this Decision to the 73rd and 74th meetings of the Standing Committee.</p>
18.95	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties and other relevant partners</i>	<p>Parties and relevant partners, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, are invited to:</p> <p>a) enforce all measures that are recommended by the CITES Standing Committee concerning commercial trade in specimens of Malagasy <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and <i>Diospyros</i> spp. from Madagascar;</p> <p>b) collaborate with Madagascar in the implementation of the agreed parts of the use plan to manage stockpiles of timber of these species from Madagascar; and</p> <p>c) provide technical and financial assistance to support the implementation of Decision 18.96.</p>
18.96	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to Madagascar</i>	<p>Madagascar shall:</p> <p>a) continue to identify the main commercially valuable species in the genera <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i> from Madagascar, in cooperation with the Secretariat and relevant partners, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;</p> <p>b) continue to make progress in the development of non-detriment findings for commercially valuable species in the genera <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i>, including implementation of appropriate monitoring mechanisms;</p> <p>c) for those species identified under paragraph a) establish, in collaboration with the CITES Secretariat, a precautionary export quota based upon a scientifically robust non-detriment finding;</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) continue the production of identification materials for timber and timber products from species of the genera <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i> from Madagascar; e) for those species identified under paragraph a), strengthen control and enforcement measures against illegal logging and export at the national level, including seizures, investigations, arrests, prosecutions, and sanctions, regardless of the title and level of responsibility of the offenders; f) subject to available funding, secure the stockpiles (including undeclared and hidden stocks) of timber of <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i> in Madagascar, and submit regular updates on audited inventories thereof, and a use plan based on transparency and independent oversight mechanisms, for consideration, approval and further guidance from the Standing Committee; g) share with the Secretariat a proposed budget, to seek assistance from Parties and technical and financial partners for the implementation of this Decision; and h) provide reports on progress with the implementation of Decision 18.96 to the 25th and 26th meetings of the Plants Committee and the 73rd and 74th meetings of the Standing Committee;
18.97	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	<p>The Plants Committee shall, at its 25th and 26th meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review reports from Madagascar and the Secretariat as appropriate on the implementation of Decision 18.96, and provide recommendations to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat; and b) provide assistance to Madagascar with the implementation of Decision 18.96.
18.98	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall, at its 73rd and 74th meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review reports from Madagascar and the Secretariat on the implementation of Decisions 18.96 and 18.97, and make recommendations to Madagascar, relevant Parties and the Secretariat as appropriate, and take measures in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i> if Madagascar fails to satisfactorily implement the actions directed to it in Decision 18.96. b) consider establishing a small intersessional advisory group of Parties to assist and advise Madagascar on the implementation of all measures regarding <i>Dalbergia</i> spp and <i>Diospyros</i> spp.
18.99	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies (<i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) assist in the implementation of Decisions 18.94 to 18.97; b) subject to external funding, assist with relevant capacity-building activities in Madagascar and transit and destination countries concerned by the trade in specimens of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and <i>Diospyros</i> spp. from Madagascar; c) issue a Notification calling on potential destination countries, of shipments of illegal specimens of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and <i>Diospyros</i> spp. from Madagascar to take appropriate measures to ensure that such timber is not illegally transported or traded, including

			<p>prohibiting entry, seizing such specimens upon arrival and apply appropriate sanctions against traffickers in accordance with the provisions of the Convention; and</p> <p>d) provide reports on progress with the implementation of this Decision to the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee, as appropriate.</p>
17.226	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties with Asian big cat captive facilities</i>	<p>All Parties in whose territory there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity are requested to:</p> <p>a) review national management practices and controls that are in place for such facilities, to ensure that these management practices and controls are adequate to prevent Asian big cat specimens from entering illegal trade from or through such facilities;</p> <p>b) ensure strict application of all management practices and controls implemented to regulate the activities of facilities that keep Asian big cats in captivity, including with regard to the disposal of specimens from Asian big cats that die in captivity; and</p> <p>c) report to the Secretariat on progress with regard to the implementation of this Decision.</p>
18.100	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties affected by illegal trade in Asian big cat specimens, in particular Parties identified in document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, are encouraged to take into consideration the information in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, and pursue enforcement efforts to address this illegal trade, including through the initiation of joint investigations and operations aimed at halting the members of organized crime networks across the entire illegal trade chain.</p>
18.101	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties, in whose territory tourist markets exist that are contributing to illegal cross border trade involving Asian big cat specimens, are encouraged to strengthen law enforcement cooperation with their neighbouring Parties to target such illegal trade.</p>
18.102	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties in whose territories there are facilities keeping Asian big cats in captivity referred to in Decision 18.108, paragraph a) are invited to welcome a mission from the Secretariat, to visit these facilities.</p>
18.103	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>All Parties that have made seizures of tiger skins since the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties are encouraged to share images in accordance with Resolution Conf 12.5 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species</i>, paragraph 1 l) by 31 December 2019 and all Parties are encouraged to share images of any skins seized hereafter within 90 days of such seizure.</p>
18.104	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are encouraged, in accordance with their national regulations, to share samples of tiger specimens from living animals, seized animals or products that could contain tiger DNA with the Czech Republic national focal point for use in the genetic research project TigrisID which is focusing on the development of novel techniques to facilitate tackling illegal trade in tiger specimens.</p>
18.105	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties, in particular those mentioned in section 3.1.5 of Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1, are encouraged to take serious consideration of the concerns regarding illegal</p>

			trade in leopard parts and derivatives as outlined in Annex 4 to document CoP18 Doc. 71.1 and take measures to address these.
18.106	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Consumer States of specimens from tiger and other Asian big cat species, are urged to take action to end demand for illegal tiger and other big cat parts and derivatives by working with relevant specialists such as consumer behaviour change, social marketing and communication experts to conduct targeted behaviour change initiatives ensuring initiatives are underpinned by sound evidence, are properly baselined, and have strong monitoring and evaluation built in, including appropriate metrics to assess efficacy; and adopting and implementing appropriate legislative and regulatory measures, to deter consumers from purchasing any illegal big cat products.
18.107	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are invited to report to the Secretariat on implementation of Decisions 18.100 to 18.106 in time for the Secretariat to report to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties as per requirements in paragraph 2 a) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18).
18.108	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) subject to external funding, undertake a mission to those Parties identified in document SC70 Doc. 51 and in whose territories there are facilities which may be of concern keeping Asian big cats in captivity, with the purpose of gaining a better understanding of the operations and activities undertaken by these facilities; and b) report to the Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings on implementation of Decisions 18.107 to 18.108, paragraph a), and progress with regard to the missions concerned and formulate recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.109	Illegal trade in Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings shall review the report and recommendations of the Secretariat concerning the implementation of Decisions 18.100 to 18.108 and determine whether any further time-bound, country specific measures are needed to strengthen the implementation of the Convention, of Decision 14.69 and of paragraph 1 h) of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP18).
18.110	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties should ensure the timely reporting of seizures and submission of DNA samples to range States, and continuously review trends associated with the illegal killing of rhinoceroses and illegal trade in rhinoceros specimens, and the measures and activities they are implementing to address these crimes, to ensure that these measures and activities remain effective and are quickly adapted to respond to any newly identified trends, and report to the Secretariat in time for consideration by the Standing Committee on any activities conducted in this regard.
18.111	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to China, Mozambique, Myanmar,</i>	China, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, South Africa and Viet Nam are encouraged to make every effort to further strengthen their implementation of paragraphs 1 e) and 2 d) of

		<i>Namibia, South Africa and Viet Nam</i>	Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses</i> , including by pursuing the initiation of joint investigations and operations aimed at addressing members of organized crime networks across the entire illegal trade chain, and to report to the Secretariat on any activities conducted in this regard, in time for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.112	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Zimbabwe</i>	Zimbabwe is encouraged to pursue the expeditious finalization of outstanding cases in court related to rhinoceros poaching and rhinoceros horn smuggling, to consider measures that could be implemented to facilitate the swift processing of such cases in future, and to report to the Secretariat on any activities conducted in this regard, in time for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.113	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	At its 74th meeting, the Standing Committee shall review the recommendations of the Secretariat reported under Decision 18.115, and any issues of concern brought to its attention under Decision 18.114 and make any additional recommendations for further action and request additional reporting, as appropriate, and prepare proposals for consideration of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.114	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall review the reports received under Decisions 18.110, 18.111 and 18.112, and bring any issues of concern that may arise to the attention of the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting (SC74).
18.115	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, in consultation with interested Parties and the African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN/SSC) and TRAFFIC, explore options to reflect on challenges and best practices to assist in addressing rhinoceros poaching and rhinoceros horn trafficking in the report prepared for the Conference of the Parties in accordance with paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) and prepare recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee, at SC74.
18.116	Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties where illegal markets for rhino horn exist</i>	Parties in which illegal markets for rhinoceros horn exist are encouraged to develop demand reduction programmes targeted at key identified audiences, taking into consideration the provisions in Resolution Conf. 17.4 on <i>Demand reduction strategies to combat illegal trade in CITES-listed species</i> and taking advantage of the experience and expertise developed in other jurisdictions and by other organizations. Parties are urged to close those markets that contribute to poaching or illegal trade.
17.87 (Rev. CoP18)	Domestic markets for frequently illegally traded specimens	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat, subject to external funding and in consultation with relevant Parties, is requested to: a) undertake a study of the domestic controls in consumer markets for specimens of CITES-listed species for which international trade is predominantly illegal, other than elephant ivory; and

			b) report the findings and recommendations of this study, as well its own recommendations, to the Standing Committee.
17.88 (Rev. CoP18)	Domestic markets for frequently illegally traded specimens	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting shall review the findings and recommendations of the report referred to in Decision 17.87 (Rev. CoP18) and any recommendations of the Secretariat and make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions, to strengthen domestic controls addressing illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species for which international trade is predominantly illegal.
18.117	Closure of domestic ivory markets	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties that have not closed their domestic markets for commercial trade in raw and worked ivory are requested to report to the Secretariat for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meetings on what measures they are taking to ensure that their domestic ivory markets are not contributing to poaching or illegal trade.
18.118	Closure of domestic ivory markets	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall compile the reports and make them available to Parties in advance of the Standing Committee meetings.
18.119	Closure of domestic ivory markets	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall: a) consider the reports under Decision 18.118; and b) report on this matter and make recommendations, as appropriate and consistent with the scope and mandate of the Convention, to the 19th meeting of Conference of the Parties.
18.120	Trade in mammoth ivory	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall commission a study on the trade in mammoth ivory, and its impact and contribution to the illegal trade in elephant ivory and the poaching of elephants and report its findings to the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting.
18.121	Trade in mammoth ivory	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	At its 74th meeting, the Standing Committee shall consider the report and findings provided by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.120 and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

REGULATION OF TRADE

Number	Title	<i>Directed to</i>	Text
18.122	Guidance for making legal acquisition findings	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide to the Secretariat any relevant information, experiences, or examples regarding the use of guidance in Annex 1 to Resolution Conf. 18.7 on <i>Legal acquisition findings</i> for verifying legal acquisition of CITES specimens to be exported and any relevant information regarding the applicability of the guidance in Annex 1 to the additional circumstances in Annex 2 to Resolution Conf. 18.7; and b) offer, on request, assistance to developing countries, for the improvement of their capacity to verify legal acquisition, based on nationally identified needs.
18.123	Guidance for making legal acquisition findings	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) issue a notification to the Parties requesting input pursuant to paragraph b) of Decision 18.122; b) report to the Standing Committee on the progress made in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 18.7 on the basis of information, experiences and examples submitted by the Parties; c) subject to external funding, maintain a dedicated webpage regarding the verification of legal acquisition on the CITES website and update it regularly; and d) subject to external funding, organize workshops and other capacity-building activities related to the implementation of Resolution Conf. 18.7 and disseminate training material for the verification of the legal acquisition of CITES specimens.
18.124	Guidance for making legal acquisition findings	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall monitor progress in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 18.7, and, assess the report submitted by the Secretariat regarding the implementation of the Resolution by the Parties and where appropriate, make recommendations for improving the verification of legal acquisition by the Parties for submission to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.</p>
18.125	Electronic systems and information technologies	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the <i>eCITES Implementation Framework</i> in regard to its potential usefulness in planning and implementing electronic CITES systems and report back on which information is useful to their own particular efforts and what additional support is needed to address other issues affecting implementation such as governance structure, technical capacity, and law enforcement restrictions; b) call upon donor agencies to take note of the interest of those Management Authorities from developing countries to adopt automated, electronic permit solutions and to provide funding for the implementation of these solutions; c) consider the implementation of electronic CITES systems in a manner designed to increase transparency and efficiency of the permit issuance and control process, to

			<p>prevent use of fraudulent permits, and to provide quality data for improved sustainability assessment;</p> <p>d) take note of the UNCTAD aCITES system (Electronic CITES Certification System) as a low cost, off-the-shelf solution that is now available to Parties for implementation;</p> <p>e) if using electronic CITES systems:</p> <p>i) consider UN/CEFACT Recommendation 14 on <i>Authentication of trade documents</i> as good practice when implementing the electronic equivalent of signatures and seals for electronic CITES permitting systems and exchanges;</p> <p>ii) authenticate each user who has access to the electronic system using username and passwords, and/or similar technologies, or both;</p> <p>iii) ensure that electronic CITES systems keep an audit trail, i.e. keep electronic records (including, but not limited to, confirmation of transmission and receipt with associated time stamps and message headers) that enable the Management Authority to identify each person who requested, approved, processed, issued, endorsed, or altered electronic CITES permits and certificates;</p> <p>iv) keep archives of audit trails for no fewer than five years after the expiry date of the permit or certificate, or no fewer than five years after the date that the trade was reported in the Party's annual report, whichever is later;</p> <p>v) provide the CITES Secretariat with copies of all valid electronic signatures it uses for issuance of permits and certificates in accordance with Article IX (4) of the Convention and paragraph 3 q) of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Permits and certificates</i>;</p> <p>vi) notify the Secretariat immediately when authenticated users are removed or no longer authenticated; and</p> <p>vii) recognize that in electronic CITES systems that meet the above requirements i) – iv), the electronic equivalent of a physical signature and seal may be provided through the authenticated identification of any of the following individuals: the permit applicant; the official who issued or authorized the permit or certificate; the official who altered the permit or certificate; the issuing authority; and the inspecting official who endorsed the permit or certificate;</p> <p>f) establish a systematic dialogue and ongoing collaboration between their Management Authorities and their national customs and border control agencies to implement an efficient, risk-based control system for international trade in CITES-listed species where possible and appropriate; and</p> <p>g) provide information to the Secretariat on the state of automation of CITES permit processes and the implementation of control systems for international trade in CITES-listed species and share their lessons learned.</p>
18.126	Electronic systems and information technologies	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee and to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Standing Committee and the Secretariat shall undertake the following tasks:</p> <p>a) work with the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</p>

			<p>(UNCTAD), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the World Bank, the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other relevant partners, to continue the development of joint projects that would facilitate Parties' access to electronic permitting services and their alignment to international trade standards and norms, such as the further development and implementation of the UNCTAD aCITES system;</p> <p>b) work with all relevant partners on the development of standards and solutions for Electronic Permit Information eXchange (EPIX) for the exchange of CITES permits and certificates and to improve the validation of CITES permit data by CITES Management Authorities and customs officials;</p> <p>c) work with the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) and other relevant organizations to exchange information and experience on the efforts towards a harmonization of standards and procedures for licenses, permits and certificates frequently used in conjunction of cross-border trade in CITES-listed specimens;</p> <p>d) monitor and advise on Parties' work related to the development of traceability systems for specimens of CITES-listed species to facilitate their harmonization with CITES permits and certificates;</p> <p>e) support the development of the capacity of Management Authorities, especially those with the greatest needs, to electronically collect, secure, maintain, and transmit data using systems compatible with those of the Secretariat and other Management Authorities; and</p> <p>f) make recommendations, as necessary, for the revision of Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Permits and certificates</i>, Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>National reports</i> and the <i>Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports</i> distributed by the Secretariat.</p>
18.127	Electronic systems and information technologies	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funding:</p> <p>a) organize in collaboration with the World Customs Organization and other relevant partners an international workshop on modern customs procedures for improved control of trade in CITES-listed species to simplify compliant trade and combat against illegal trade in wildlife and prepare recommendations to the Standing Committee;</p> <p>b) work with national and international organizations, such as the World Customs Organization (WCO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Regional Commissions, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Bank to support Parties in the implementation of efficient and risk-based procedures for control in CITES-listed species in relation to the automation of CITES permitting processes using information technologies and modern trade control procedures;</p> <p>c) provide capacity-building and advisory services to support Parties interested in implementing electronic solutions for the management and control of CITES permits</p>

			<p>and certificates and support Parties in establishing electronic permit systems and information exchanges;</p> <p>d) work with relevant partners to explore emerging technologies including Blockchain related technologies for secure and efficient issuance, exchange and control of CITES permits and certificates; and</p> <p>e) submit reports on activities undertaken under Decisions 18.125, 18.126 and 18.127 and make recommendations to the Standing Committee as appropriate.</p>
18.128	Electronic systems and information technologies	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the reports and recommendations of the Secretariat under Decision 18.127, paragraph e), and make recommendations on electronic systems and information technologies as required to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.129	Authentication and control of permits	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to provide the Secretariat with information on their approaches and experiences in the authentication and control of CITES permits.
18.130	Authentication and control of permits	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) prepare, in consultation with interested Parties, an in-depth study on the current practices in CITES permit authentication and control, using a selection of Parties as case studies to demonstrate the state-of-play on how current trading practices and the use of technologies affect their CITES trade regulation process; and</p> <p>b) identify possible gaps in relevant Resolutions that could be addressed to provide guidance to Parties, particularly from the point of view of adapting CITES permitting process to match the current range of trading practice.</p>
18.131	Authentication and control of permits	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the report on authentication and control of CITES permits prepared by the Secretariat and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as deemed necessary.
14.54 (Rev. CoP18)	Purpose codes on CITES permits and certificates	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall re-establish an intersessional joint working group to review the use of purpose-of-transaction codes by Parties, with the following terms of reference:</p> <p>a) the working group shall be composed of Parties from as many of the six CITES regions as possible, and appropriate intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, with expertise in the issuance of CITES documents and use of purpose-of-transaction codes for evaluation within the permit issuance process and trade data analysis;</p> <p>b) the working group shall, communicating through electronic media, focus on clearly defining purpose-of-transaction codes to encourage their consistent use, and consider the possible elimination of current codes or the inclusion of new ones;</p> <p>c) the working group shall also clarify the overlap between purpose-of-transaction codes that describe physical locations and purpose-of-transaction codes that describe activities, one or more of which may pertain to any given permit;</p> <p>d) the working group shall also consider any Resolution related to or affected by purpose-of-transaction codes, to ensure coherent interpretation; and</p>

			e) the working group shall submit a report and any recommendations for amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Permits and certificates</i> , or to any revision thereof, and recommendations for amendments to any other Resolution identified under paragraph d) above to the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee, which shall report, with its recommendations, at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.132	Non-detriment findings	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) inventory and review the materials and guidance for the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs) that are available to the Parties, and identify any apparent gaps or needs (e.g. regarding taxonomic or geographical coverage, form or format, comprehensiveness, accessibility, languages, updates, practicality, etc.), including guidance for making NDFs for trade in specimens from different sources (W, R and F), and NDFs for taxa prioritized/called for in Decisions or Resolutions; b) identify, in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees and Parties, and based on the analysis, priorities for additional or improved NDF guidance materials, and for addressing apparent gaps or needs; c) subject to external funding, address the agreed priorities in capacity-building by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) undertaking targeted research in support of the development of new or updated NDF guidance materials in collaboration with relevant experts, Parties and organizations; and ii) organising one or more interdisciplinary expert workshops on NDFs, including the 2nd international expert workshop on non-detriment findings, with assistance of the Animals and Plants Committees, where draft guidance materials on NDFs are to be reviewed, advanced or completed; d) present the results of the work to the Animals and Plants Committees for their review, and make suggestions on how best to use the outputs to assist Scientific Authorities in the making of NDFs; and e) make available to Parties on the CITES website the NDF guidance materials resulting from the implementation of the present Decision.
18.133	Non-detriment findings	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	<p>The Animals and Plants Committees shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review the Secretariat's gap analysis of NDF materials and guidance, and assist in identifying priorities for additional or improved NDF guidance materials, and for addressing apparent gaps or needs; b) participate as appropriate in the interdisciplinary expert workshops on NDFs where draft guidance materials are to be reviewed, advanced or completed; c) assist the Secretariat in preparing the 2nd international expert workshop on non-detriment findings as a follow up from Cancun 2008, based on the progress made since then; d) review and make recommendations concerning the outcomes of the interdisciplinary expert workshops on NDFs; the final draft guidance materials on NDFs; the use of

			<p>these outputs in support of the making of NDFs by Scientific Authorities; and their publication on the CITES website; and</p> <p>e) report on these activities at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.</p>
18.134	Non-detriment findings	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are encouraged to:</p> <p>a) provide financial support for the implementation of Decision 18.132, including the 2nd international expert workshop on non-detriment findings;</p> <p>b) provide any help and information regarding methodologies, tools, scientific information, expertise and any other resources used to formulate NDFs in order to contribute to such a workshop, the results of which should be submitted to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its 19th meeting; and</p> <p>c) make use of the guidance materials on NDFs resulting from the implementation of Decisions 18.132 and 18.133, and report experiences and findings to the Animals and Plants Committees.</p>
18.135	Identification materials	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) continue collecting information on identification materials and share it through the CITES Website and the CITES Virtual College; and</p> <p>b) subject to the availability of external funding, and with input from the joint working group called for under Decision 18.137, revise and redesign the CITES Virtual College in order to make the identification materials available in a more user-friendly manner.</p>
18.136	Identification materials	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall undertake a review of Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Identification Manual</i>. It shall:</p> <p>a) collect and compile information on the current state of species identification activities and needs, and assess their relevance for the review of Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16);</p> <p>b) consider whether Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) would best be revised or replaced with a new resolution on <i>Identification of specimens of CITES-listed species</i>, and prepare a draft text of the revised or new resolution;</p> <p>c) propose a revised resolution in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees and the Standing Committee; and</p> <p>d) report on the progress and make recommendations at the meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees, and the meeting of the Standing Committee, as appropriate.</p>
18.137	Identification materials	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	<p>The Animals and Plants Committees shall establish a joint working group on identification materials that are used by Parties to identify CITES-listed species and provide inputs to the Secretariat based on the outcomes of the following working group tasks, in consultation with the Secretariat:</p> <p>a) review selected identification materials, including material compiled as per Decision 18.136 paragraph a), and assess the need for their revision and improvement, taking into account the materials that are being developed or have already been developed by Parties and materials requested in Decisions or Resolutions;</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) review Resolution Conf. 11.19 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Identification Manual</i>, taking into account the review outlined in Decision 18.137 paragraphs a) and c), to promote accuracy and availability of identification materials; c) consider ways to improve the accuracy and availability of identification materials on CITES-listed species; and d) report on progress with these activities at the next meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees.
18.138	Identification materials	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide inputs on the draft resolution text prepared by the Secretariat and revised by the Animals and Plants Committees, to ensure that the needs for identification materials expressed by Parties and authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement are taken into account; and b) submit the revised draft resolution to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.139	Identification materials	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to support the efforts of the working group on identification materials by providing to the Secretariat information on available identification and guidance materials that are used by Parties, and particularly by enforcement and inspection officers, to facilitate implementation of the Convention.
18.140	Identification of timber and other wood products	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	<p>The Plants Committee shall, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and building on information on existing initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) determine gaps and complementarities in various tools and knowledge sources for timber identification, such as existing field identification guidelines and keys, and on their availability and usefulness; b) develop standardized information templates and other tools that could be used by Parties to facilitate sharing information on the content and status of wood sample collections, and exchange with research institutions, law enforcement agencies, and other authorities; c) assist Parties to identify existing laboratory services for the identification of timber and wood products and to strengthen screening and forensic capacity to identify CITES-listed tree species in trade; d) determine methods to stimulate global, regional and national exchange of best practices in wood identification technologies between Parties; and e) update the Standing Committee, as appropriate, on progress made on the implementation of Decisions 18.140 to 18.142; and report its findings and recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.141	Identification of timber and other wood products	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to collaborate with the Plants Committee, with relevant stakeholders and with existing initiatives in the implementation of Decision 18.140, by:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) working with institutions having wood identification expertise, in order to share information related to timber identification methods, tools and protocols for enforcement and customs officers; b) identifying existing laboratory services for the identification of timber and wood products, and strengthening screening and forensic capacity to identify CITES-listed tree species in trade; c) identifying effective wood identification training methods, tools and protocols for enforcement and customs officers; d) prioritizing the species of rosewoods and palisanders that would most benefit from the development of timber identification tools, protocols and materials; and e) reporting information on existing laboratories, effective wood identification training methods, tools and protocols for enforcement and customs officers, and the priority species of rosewoods and palisanders to the Plants Committee.
18.142	Identification of timber and other wood products	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) liaise with organizations having relevant expertise on timber identification, including the Global Timber Tracking Network (GTTN), the International Association of Wood Anatomists (IAWA), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Thünen Centre of Competence on the Origin of Timber, the European Forest Institute (EFI), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the World Resources Institute (WRI) to identify shared priorities, in consultation with the Plants Committee, including priority species, emerging techniques, standardized procedures, and collection and sharing of wood samples applicable to timber tracking tools; b) make the currently available guidance on wood identification accessible to Parties through the CITES website; and c) report to the Plants Committee on progress with the implementation of this Decision.
18.143	Identification of timber and other wood products	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review any updates received from the Plants Committee on the implementation of Decisions 18.140 to 18.142, and provide recommendations to the Plants Committee, as appropriate.
16.58 (Rev. CoP18)	Identification of timber and other wood products	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) obtain information and materials from those Parties that have reported that they have developed tools and procedures for the identification and measurement of CITES-listed tree species, and the physical inspection of timber shipments; b) publish the information on the CITES website so that it can be accessed by CITES plant inspection and enforcement authorities; and c) incorporate this information into its capacity-building activities related to timber trade.
16.136 (Rev. CoP18)	Identification and traceability of sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) subject to external funding and in consultation with the Animals Committee, organize a study to:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) provide an overview of molecular, DNA-based and other forensic methods that could assist in identifying the species and populations of Acipenseriformes specimens in trade, determining the origin or age of specimens, and differentiating wild from captive-bred or aquacultured specimens; ii) review relevant developments in this area, including the availability and reliability of uniform identification systems; iii) evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the different methods (including practicality, costs, time-efficiency, reliability, technical requirements, etc.); and iv) formulate relevant guidance for CITES Parties, enforcement agencies, the private sector and other stakeholders; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) ensure consultation with Parties that authorize trade in specimens of sturgeons and paddlefish, appropriate experts, institutions and organizations, and the private sector in the conduct of the study; c) make the results of the study available to the Animals Committee for its consideration; and d) disseminate the recommendations formulated by the Standing Committee pursuant to Decision 16.138 (Rev. CoP18) in a Notification to the Parties.
16.137 (Rev. CoP18)	Identification and traceability of sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall assist the Secretariat in determining the specifications for the study referred to in Decision 16.136 (Rev. CoP18) and monitoring its conduct. It shall review the report of the study and make recommendations as appropriate for consideration by the Standing Committee.
16.138 (Rev. CoP18)	Identification and traceability of sturgeons and paddlefish (Acipenseriformes spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the study undertaken in accordance with Decision 16.136 (Rev. CoP18) and the recommendations that the Animals Committee formulated in compliance with Decision 16.137 (Rev. CoP18), and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to Parties concerned or for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.144	Traceability	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) use, where feasible, the working definition of CITES traceability as follows: <i>Traceability is the ability to access information on specimens and events in a CITES species supply chain*.</i> <i>* This information should be carried, on a case by case basis, from as close to the point of harvest as practicable and needed to the point at which the information facilitates the verification of legal acquisition and non-detriment findings and helps prevent laundering of illegal products.</i> b) take note of the information available on the CITES webpage on traceability, as appropriate, such as the working definition of traceability; technical standards for CITES traceability; managerial best practice guidelines for planning and implementing CITES traceability systems; and projects related to traceability, which can provide guidance to Parties that develop or implement CITES traceability projects.
18.145	Traceability	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall:

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) include the working definition on traceability mentioned in Decision 18.144 paragraph a) into the CITES glossary; b) continue to provide information on CITES related traceability projects and latest developments on the CITES webpage on traceability; c) continue to provide support to Parties in the implementation of traceability systems involving CITES-listed specimens, subject to availability of external funding; d) continue to work with the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) and other relevant standard-setting bodies on the potential for integration of CITES traceability systems into international traceability standards and recommendations for traceability; and e) review reports submitted by Parties on their experiences in implementing traceability and report as necessary to the Standing Committee.
18.146	Labelling system for trade in caviar	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall, taking into account work undertaken by the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee, with support by the Secretariat between the 17th and 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the practical challenges in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention with regard to the application of the “CITES guidelines for a universal labelling system for the trade in and identification of caviar” contained in Annex 1 of Resolution Conf. 12.7 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Conservation of and trade in sturgeons and paddlefish</i> in light of the recognized shift in many cases from wild-caught specimens to non-wild specimens produced in aquaculture facilities; and b) as needed, make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to address the identified challenges with the aim of arriving at a practical approach for trade in caviar from aquaculture production.
18.147	Specimens produced through biotechnology	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are invited to provide information to the Secretariat regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) cases where they have issued, or received requests to issue, CITES permits and certificates for specimens produced through biotechnology; b) other situations when they have applied the interpretation of Resolution Conf. 9.6 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Trade in readily recognizable parts and derivatives</i> to fauna and flora products produced through biotechnology; and c) technological developments and applications taking place, particularly in their jurisdiction, that may result in the manufacture of specimens produced through biotechnology that may have impact on the interpretation and implementation of the Convention.
18.148	Specimens produced through biotechnology	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	<p>The Animals and Plants Committees shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review the complete study on “Wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA”, monitor the most recent scientific and technological advancements and applications that may lead to the synthetic production of specimens of CITES-listed

			<p>species, and make recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions; and</p> <p>b) provide any relevant scientific advice and guidance on matters relevant to international trade in specimens produced through biotechnology and communicate it to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.</p>
18.149	Specimens produced through biotechnology	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <p>a) discuss whether and how to apply the term “readily recognizable part or derivative” to trade in products of biotechnology, which might potentially affect international trade in CITES-listed specimens in a way that would threaten their survival, including enforcement of CITES provisions;</p> <p>b) communicate to the Animals and Plants Committees any matters that may require scientific advice and guidance, as appropriate; and</p> <p>c) make recommendations for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including appropriate revisions to existing resolutions or the development of a new resolution on trade in specimens produced from biotechnology.</p>
18.150	Specimens produced through biotechnology	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) present the study on “Wildlife products produced from synthetic or cultured DNA”, along with the Secretariat’s findings and recommendations, to the Animals and Plants Committees;</p> <p>b) collate information received from Parties in relation to Decision 18.147, as well as any other information received from Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other entities related to the issue of specimens produced through biotechnology;</p> <p>c) communicate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant organizations as appropriate, to keep abreast of the discussions taking place on other fora on issues that may be relevant to specimens produced through biotechnology; and</p> <p>d) share the information collated under paragraphs b) and c) and report progress on the implementation of this Decision to the Animals and Plants Committees, and the Standing Committee, as appropriate.</p>
18.151	Implications of the transfer of a species from one Appendix to another	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall, with the assistance of the Secretariat, consider whether further guidance related to the period of transition, including the period between the adoption of a proposal to transfer a species from one Appendix to another and the entry into force of the new listing, should be developed and, if so, present amendments to an existing Resolution or a new draft resolution to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In this context, the Standing Committee shall consider, in consultation with the Plants Committee, as appropriate, whether special recommendations should apply in the case of a transfer of a tree species with Annotation #5 or other annotated plant species.</p>

18.152	Definition of ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) create and maintain a dedicated webpage on the CITES website to make available the non-binding guidance contained in document CoP18 Doc. 44.1 and to compile reference materials, published references, best practice examples, examples of Parties’ appropriate and acceptable destination findings and suitably equipped to house and care for living specimens’ findings, and other relevant information; b) issue a notification within 90 days of the close of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties containing the non-binding guidance contained in document CoP18 Doc. 44.1 on the provisions of paragraph 2 a) of Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Definition of the term ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’</i> for living specimens of Appendix-II species subject to an annotation referring to ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’, as well as Article III paragraphs 3 (b) and 5 (b) for living Appendix-I specimens; and inviting Parties to submit relevant material for the CITES webpage created under paragraph a); c) source additional relevant information for inclusion on the dedicated webpage created under paragraph a); and d) issue a notification within 30 days of the close of the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee inviting Parties to provide feedback on experience with using the guidance contained in document CoP18 Doc. 44.1 as well as the information provided on the CITES webpage created under paragraph a) and report this to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee for their consideration and recommendations, as appropriate.
18.153	Definition of ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall consult with Parties whose elephants are listed in Appendix II and who have exported wild caught elephants to a non-elephant range State since CoP11 on their implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.20 on <i>Definition of the term ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’</i>, in particular considering the role and responsibility of the State of export in Article IV and Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Non-detriment findings</i>, and provide the information received to the Animals Committee, for its consideration.</p>
18.154	Definition of ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) invited to use the non-binding guidance contained in document CoP18 Doc. 44.1 when considering whether the proposed recipient of a living specimen is suitably equipped to house and care for it; and b) encouraged to submit relevant information for the webpage created under Decision 18.152, paragraph a).
18.155	Definition of ‘appropriate and acceptable destinations’	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) prepare non-binding best practice guidance on how to determine whether “the trade would promote <i>in situ</i> conservation”, in line with the provisions of paragraph 2 b) of Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP18), in consultation with the Secretariat;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) building on the existing non-binding guidance contained in document CoP18 Doc. 44.1, prepare more detailed species-specific guidance for living specimens of African elephants and southern white rhinoceros, in consultation with relevant experts (including species and zoological facility experts) and the Secretariat; c) make the guidance and any recommendations available for consideration and endorsement by the Standing Committee; and d) review the report from the Secretariat on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 18.152 paragraph d) and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.156	Definition of 'appropriate and acceptable destinations'	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the report of the Animals Committee, regarding the non-binding guidance developed under Decision 18.155 paragraphs a) and b), and the guidance contained in document CoP18 Doc. 44.1 and make recommendations, as appropriate, including possible revisions to Resolution Conf. 11.20 (Rev. CoP18) and any other relevant Resolution, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and b) review the report from the Secretariat and any comments and recommendations coming from the Animals Committee on feedback from Parties called for in Decision 18.152 paragraph d) and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
17.181	Introduction from the sea	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee, as appropriate, on the results of the negotiations on the development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).
18.157	Introduction from the sea	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall continue to monitor the implementation of Resolution 14.6 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Introduction from the sea</i> , including the provisions on chartering, and report as appropriate to the Standing Committee.
18.158	Introduction from the sea	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall, as appropriate, review the information provided by the Secretariat as requested in Decisions 18.157 and 17.181 and, if necessary, propose measures for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which may include amendments to Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16).
18.159	Disposal of confiscated specimens	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall collect information on existing networks and resources on the management of seized and confiscated live animals and make it available to Parties.
18.160	Disposal of confiscated specimens	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall make available materials that may assist Parties in implementing Annex 3 to Resolution Conf. 17.8 on <i>Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species</i> , as needed.
18.161	Disposal of confiscated specimens	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Decisions 18.159 and 18.160.

18.162	Disposal of confiscated specimens	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to make use of the information and materials made available by the Secretariat under Decisions 18.159 and 18.160 and to include it in capacity-building activities.
18.163	Disposal of confiscated specimens	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the report submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.161 and make recommendations, as appropriate.
18.164	Disposal of confiscated specimens	<i>Directed to Parties and other entities</i>	Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial and/or technical assistance, as relevant, for the implementation of Decisions 18.160 and 18.162.
18.165	Quotas for leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) hunting trophies	<i>Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16)</i>	Parties which have quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) on <i>Quotas for leopard hunting trophies and skins for personal use</i> , and which did not yet provide relevant information to the Animals Committee (Botswana, the Central African Republic and Ethiopia), are requested to review these quotas and consider whether these quotas are still set at levels which are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild, and to share the outcomes of the review and the basis for the determination that the quota is not detrimental, with the Animals Committee at its 31st meeting.
18.166	Quotas for leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) hunting trophies	<i>Directed to Parties with quotas established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16)</i>	All Parties which have quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) are encouraged to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild.
18.167	Quotas for leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) hunting trophies	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall consider the information submitted by the relevant range States under Decision 18.165 and any other relevant information, and, if necessary, make any recommendations to these range States and to the Standing Committee relating to the review.
18.168	Quotas for leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) hunting trophies	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall review any information submitted by the Secretariat under Decision 18.169 and make recommendations to the Secretariat and leopard range States, as appropriate.
18.169	Quotas for leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) hunting trophies	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) support the reviews to be undertaken by range States referred to in Decision 18.165, upon request by a range State; b) encourage and support all Parties with quotas for leopard hunting trophies established under Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16) to exchange information and lessons learnt regarding the process for determining that such quotas are non-detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and c) in cooperation with range States and relevant experts, develop guidance that can assist Parties in the making of non-detriment findings for trade in leopard hunting trophies in compliance with Resolution Conf. 10.14 (Rev. CoP16), share the draft

			guidance with the Animals Committee for its review, make such guidance available on the CITES website, and encourage its use by relevant Parties.
18.170	Quotas for leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) hunting trophies	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee should consider any recommendations of the Animals Committee made in accordance with Decision 18.167, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

EXEMPTIONS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Number	Title	<i>Directed to</i>	Text
18.171	Simplified procedures for permits and certificates	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, in consultation with Parties and stakeholders, prepare draft guidance on the use of the simplified procedures and on the use of the exemption for scientific exchange. The draft guidance shall be shared with the Standing Committee for review, amendment as appropriate, and endorsement. The guidance should include consideration of other types of specimens in addition to those identified in document CoP18 Doc. 56, paragraph 13 with a focus on the international movement of CITES specimens where the trade will have a negligible impact on the species concerned. The Secretariat shall also develop a dedicated page on the CITES website on simplified procedures. If so requested and subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall organize specific training workshops on simplified procedures.
14.69	Captive-bred and ranched specimens	<i>Directed to Parties, especially Appendix-I Asian big cat range States</i>	Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives.
17.102	Captive-bred and ranched specimens	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, engage in a capacity-building project using materials prepared under Decisions 16.63, paragraph a) vii), and 15.52, paragraph a). This project should involve all regions and a variety of taxa. The Secretariat shall report to the Standing Committee on the work undertaken under the present Decision.
18.172	Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	The Animals Committee, at its 31st meeting (AC31), and the Plants Committee, at its 25th meeting (PC25), shall consider the Secretariat's update of the review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source in Annex 7 of document SC70 Doc. 31.1 and Parties' comments and recommendations in document SC70 Doc. 31.1 Annex 8, identify the key scientific issues and challenges in the application of the Convention to non-wild specimens, and provide their recommendations to address these issues and challenges to the Standing Committee in time for its 73rd meeting (SC73).
18.173	Review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall: a) consider at SC73 the Secretariat's update of the review of CITES provisions related to trade in specimens of animals and plants not of wild source in Annex 7 of document SC70 Doc. 31.1 and Parties' comments and recommendations in document SC70 Doc. 31.1 Annex 8; the underlying CITES policy assumptions that may have contributed to the uneven application of Article VII, paragraphs 4 and 5; the Secretariat's recommendations in the Annexes to SC70 Doc. 31.1; and the recommendations of the Animals and Plants Committees under Decision 18.172; and

			b) review the key issues and challenges in the application of the Convention to non-wild specimens and make appropriate recommendations, including amendments to existing Resolutions or development of a new Resolution or Decisions, to address these issues and challenges for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.174	Captive-breeding of Sri Lankan agamids	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall prepare a report to the 31st meeting of the Animals Committee on possible species-country combinations of <i>Ceratophora stoddartii</i> , <i>Ceratophora aspera</i> and <i>Lyriocephalus scutatus</i> for review under Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i> .
18.175	Captive-breeding of Sri Lankan agamids	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall review the report of the Secretariat and consider whether to select species-country combinations of <i>Ceratophora stoddartii</i> , <i>Ceratophora aspera</i> and <i>Lyriocephalus scutatus</i> for review under Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i> .
18.176	Review of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	With the assistance of the Secretariat and in the light of its experiences with its implementation, the Animals Committee shall review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity</i> and make any recommendations for improvements to the Standing Committee.
18.177	Review of the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	With the assistance of the Secretariat, taking account of any report from the Animals Committee and in the light of its experiences with its implementation, the Standing Committee shall review the provisions of Resolution Conf. 17.7 (Rev. CoP18) and make any recommendations for improvements to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.178	Guidance on the term 'artificially propagated'	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding: a) commission the preparation of guidance materials for the Parties on aspects of artificial propagation including the terms 'under controlled conditions', 'cultivated parental stock' and the new source code or such terms as may be adopted at CoP18, to supplement the publication <i>A Guide to the application of CITES source codes</i> ; b) report to the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting on progress on paragraph a); and c) after review and revision by the Plants Committee, if directed by the Plants Committee, publish the final guidance on the CITES website.
18.179	Specimens grown from wild-collected seeds or spores that are deemed to be artificially propagated	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall review the implementation of paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Regulation of trade in plants</i> and the trade in specimens of artificially propagated Appendix-I species. The report shall include consideration of conservation benefits to wild populations and any adverse effects on the conservation of Appendix-I species that have been subject to the implementation of paragraph 4.

18.180	Specimens grown from wild-collected seeds or spores that are deemed to be artificially propagated	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee, following the review under Decision 18.179, shall consider any changes to paragraph 4 of Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18), and as appropriate, propose such amendments for consideration of the Standing Committee.
18.181	Specimens grown from wild-collected seeds or spores that are deemed to be artificially propagated	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations of the Plants Committee made in accordance with Decisions 18.179 and 18.180, and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
17.170 (Rev. CoP18)	Stocks and stockpiles	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall, with the assistance of the Secretariat, review the existing provisions agreed by the Parties concerning controls on stocks of specimens of CITES-listed species. It shall consider their objectives and implementation, and the resource implications for Parties and the Secretariat, and shall report its conclusions and recommendations at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.182	Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting (SC73) shall review and consider for approval the practical guidance prepared by the Secretariat for the management of ivory stockpiles, including their disposal.
18.183	Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall disseminate the practical guidance for the management of ivory stockpiles, including their disposal, once approved by the Standing Committee.
18.184	Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) identify those Parties that have not provided information on the level of government-held stockpiles of ivory and significant privately held stockpiles of ivory within their territory or where stockpiles are not well secured and report to the 72nd and 73rd meetings* of the Standing Committee with recommendations as necessary; and b) annually publish updated summary data based on the inventories submitted by Parties, disaggregated to regional but not country level, including the total ivory stockpiles by weight. * <i>The Secretariat believes that the intention was to refer to the 73rd and 74th meetings of the Standing Committee.</i>
18.185	Stocks and stockpiles (elephant ivory)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	At its 72nd and 73rd meetings*, the Standing Committee shall consider the report and recommendations of the Secretariat in Decision 18.184 and determine whether any further actions are necessary in the case of Parties who fail to provide annual inventories of government-held stockpiles of ivory and significant privately held stockpiles of ivory within their territory or where stockpiles are not well secured. * <i>The Secretariat believes that the intention was to refer to the 73rd and 74th meetings of the Standing Committee.</i>

SPECIES-SPECIFIC MATTERS

Number	Title	Directed to	Text
18.186	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall liaise with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) to assist in the implementation of the trade-related aspects of the Vulture Multispecies Action Plan, subject to the availability of resources, including sharing information based on the work of the Animals Committee.
18.187	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat is encouraged to include vultures as a case study for the possible Non-Detriment Findings workshop.
18.188	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties requesting the following information concerning trade in and conservation of Egyptian vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>), white-headed vulture (<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>), hooded vulture (<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>), whitebacked vulture (<i>Gyps africanus</i>), Rüppell's vulture (<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>) and lappet-faced vulture (<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>) in West Africa:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) biological data on West African vultures, including population size, breeding productivity, distribution, and trends across the range of the species; b) available information about harvest and levels of legal and illegal trade of vultures and their parts; c) information on threats to these species, in particular belief-based use and sentinel poisoning, and other trade-related threats; d) information on enforcement actions taken, including seizures, forensic analysis of seized specimens, arrests, prosecutions and judgments relating to illegal trade in vultures as well as disposal of seized specimens; and e) new developments regarding management, education and awareness-raising measures concerning vultures.
18.189	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall compile responses from the Parties and provide these responses to the Animals Committee's working group to inform its work.
18.190	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall establish a working group to address key gaps in knowledge as it relates to the biological and trade issues highlighted in the Vulture Multispecies Action Plan (Vulture MsAP), with particular attention for the six species mentioned in Decision 18.188 and the West African region, and including but not limited to trade in vulture parts of belief-based use (Objective 4), sentinel poisoning by poachers (Objective 5), cross-cutting actions that contribute to addressing knowledge gaps (Objective 11), and contribute to effective implementation of the Vulture MsAP (Objective 12).</p> <p>The working group shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) review the information submitted under the Notification;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) conduct a detailed assessment on the scale and impact of legal and illegal trade in live birds, eggs, and vulture body parts across the range of the Vulture MsAP; and c) provide findings and recommendations to the Animals Committee.
18.191	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall provide guidance to range States on how to factor in all known threats to the species when making non-detriment findings for these species, and make recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.192	West African vultures (Accipitridae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the recommendations from the Animals Committee, as appropriate, and information relating to illegal trade in vulture body parts for traditional/belief-based use, and adopt recommendations as appropriate for consideration by the Parties concerned; and b) in consultation with the Secretariat, report on the implementation of Decisions 18.186 to 18.191 to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.193	Cheetah trade resource kit (Acinonyx jubatus)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, make the final version of the CITES cheetah trade resource kit available in the languages and formats agreed by the Standing Committee.
18.194	Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall, subject to availability of external resources, and in close consultation with the Animals Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) conduct one or more interdisciplinary workshops for CITES Authorities and other relevant authorities and stakeholders about amphibian species in international trade, including but not limited to the following objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) identify amphibian species that are in international trade and evaluate whether certain species or groups should be recommended for possible listing in the Appendices; ii) share existing national legislation relevant to the trade in amphibians; iii) evaluate whether current levels of trade are compatible with the conservation of these species in the wild; iv) compile further data on harvesting levels of amphibians subject to high volumes of international trade; v) explore the emerging threat of diseases to traded amphibians, including amphibian chytrid fungus and ranaviruses; and vi) examine current enforcement efforts to deter and detect illegal and unreported trade and identify additional actions needed; and b) report on the progress in the implementation of paragraph a) above to the Animals Committee, including any relevant recommendations.
18.195	Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the report submitted by the Secretariat as per Decision 18.194; and

			b) make recommendations to the Standing Committee and the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
18.196	Conservation of amphibians (Amphibia spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider any report submitted by the Animals Committee as per Decision 18.195 and develop recommendations for consideration of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
18.197	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to range States of European eels (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)</i>	<p>Range States of European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) submit any non-detriment finding studies on European eel they have undertaken to the Secretariat for inclusion on the CITES website; explore the different approaches that might be taken for making non-detriment findings for European eels traded as fingerlings (FIG) compared with those traded as other live eels (LIV); collaborate and share information with other Parties regarding such studies and their outcome, especially where the Parties share catchments or water bodies; seek review and advice from the Animals Committee or other suitable body on any non-detriment findings for European eels where appropriate; b) develop and/or implement adaptive European eel management plans at national or sub-national (or catchment) level, with defined and time-bound goals, and enhance collaboration within countries between authorities and other stakeholders with responsibilities for eel management, and between countries where water bodies or catchments are shared; c) share information on stock assessments, harvests, the results of monitoring and other relevant data with the Joint Working Group on Eels (WGEEL) of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission, the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas and the Central Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (EIFAAC/ICES/GFCM), so that a full and complete picture of the state of the European eel stock can be established; d) develop measures or implement more effectively existing measures to improve the traceability of eels in trade (both live and dead); e) provide the Secretariat with information regarding any changes to measures they have in place to restrict the trade in live 'glass' or fingerling European eels; and f) provide information to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision to allow it to report to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate.
18.198	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to range States of non-CITES <i>Anguilla</i> spp. in international trade (particularly <i>A. rostrata</i>, <i>A. japonica</i>, <i>A. marmorata</i> and <i>A. bicolor</i>)</i>	<p>Range States of non-CITES <i>Anguilla</i> spp. in international trade are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) where appropriate, implement conservation and management measures, such as adaptive eel management plans, enhanced collaboration within countries, between authorities and other stakeholders with responsibilities for eel management, and related legislation to ensure the sustainability of harvests and international trade in <i>Anguilla</i> spp. and make these widely available; b) collaborate and cooperate with other range States on shared stocks of <i>Anguilla</i> spp. to develop shared objectives for these stocks and their management, improve the

			<p>understanding of the biology of the species, conduct joint programmes of work and share knowledge and experience;</p> <p>c) establish monitoring programmes and develop abundance indices in range States where none exist. For ongoing programmes, identifying opportunities for expanding to new locations and/or live stages would be favourable;</p> <p>d) improve traceability of <i>Anguilla</i> spp. in trade (both live and dead); and</p> <p>e) provide information to the Secretariat on the implementation of this Decision to allow it report to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate.</p>
18.199	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) prepare and submit a summary report on the implementation of Decisions 18.197 and 18.198 with draft recommendations to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, as appropriate, for their consideration;</p> <p>b) collate available information on the biology of <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> in collaboration with experts, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Anguillid Specialist Group, with a view to determining whether the glass eel (fingerling) life stage can be considered to have a “low probability of surviving to adulthood”, and report its findings to the Animals Committee;</p> <p>c) invite Parties, through a Notification, to submit information regarding current levels of, or emerging trends in, trade in specimens of <i>Anguilla</i> spp;</p> <p>d) subject to the availability of resources, commission a study to consider levels of trade and trade patterns, especially in live eels for aquaculture, and sources of supply, identify any disparities between these and make recommendations for the more effective future management of harvests and trade; and</p> <p>e) prepare and submit a summary of the responses to the Notification and the study referred to in paragraph d) of this Decision, if available, with draft recommendations to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee as appropriate for their consideration.</p>
18.200	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall:</p> <p>a) if requested, consider any reports submitted by Parties with respect to the making of non-detriment findings for trade in European eel and provide advice and guidance as needed;</p> <p>b) review the report from the Secretariat on the biology of European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) prepared under Decision 18.199 paragraph b) and consider the potential use of source code R (ranching) for specimens of <i>A. anguilla</i> from aquaculture production systems, and provide advice and make recommendations to the Parties and the Standing Committee as appropriate;</p> <p>c) review available information relating to the potential risks and benefits of reintroducing seized, live European eels (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) to the wild and, if appropriate, provide advice on suitable protocols taking into account existing guidance and practices, for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and</p>

			d) consider the progress reports provided by Parties and the report by the Secretariat with respect to Decisions 18.197, 18.198 and 18.199 and make any recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.201	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall: a) consider the report prepared by the Secretariat and any other available information relating to illegal trade in European eel, including the case study by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on European eel trafficking as part of the 2nd World Wildlife Crime Report, and make recommendations as appropriate; b) review any advice and recommendations coming from the Animals Committee concerning Decision 18.200 paragraph b) and make recommendations as appropriate; and c) with the assistance of the Secretariat, engage with the World Customs Organization to examine the feasibility of harmonizing customs codes relevant to trade in all <i>Anguilla</i> species and report to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.202	Eels (<i>Anguilla</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to donor Parties and other relevant organizations</i>	Donor Parties and other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and others, are invited and encouraged to provide support to, and build capacity for, <i>Anguilla</i> range States for the purpose of implementing Decisions 18.197 and 18.198.
17.192 (Rev. CoP18)	Precious corals (Order Antipatharia and family Coralliidae)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee is requested to: a) analyse the outcomes of the precious coral survey and the FAO study and prepare recommendations, as appropriate, on actions needed to enhance the conservation and sustainable harvest and use of all precious corals in international trade; and b) report these recommendations to the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting.
17.193 (Rev. CoP18)	Precious corals (Order Antipatharia and family Coralliidae)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee is requested to consider the information and recommendations of the Animals Committee, made in accordance with Decision 17.192 (Rev. CoP18), and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, for communication to the Parties or for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.203	Agarwood-producing taxa (<i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall: a) monitor the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.10 on <i>Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa</i> to assess any potential conservation impacts to the long-term survival of agarwood-producing species and possible problems arising from the implementation, by: i) developing a questionnaire on potential conservation issues in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 16.10 on <i>Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa</i> to be circulated to the Parties through a Notification, and analysing the responses received; ii) examining available trade data; and

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii) analysing available data on the conservation status of agarwood-producing species; and b) report findings and recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and advise on the need for a study to further assess impacts of harvest, management and trade in agarwood products on the conservation of agarwood-producing species in the wild.
18.204	Agarwood-producing taxa (Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall assist the Plants Committee in the implementation of Decision 18.203.
18.205	Boswellia trees (Boswellia spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties and, as appropriate, liaise with relevant stakeholders of <i>Boswellia</i> trade, requesting the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) biological data on <i>Boswellia</i> species, including population size, distribution, status and population trends, identification information, and its role in the ecosystem in which it occurs; b) available information about harvest and exploitation levels, trade names, stakeholders close to the harvest of the species and supply chain characteristics for domestic consumption and international trade; c) information on threats to these species, especially as it pertains to the underlying causes of poor regeneration capability and the impact of harvest on these species; d) information on any initiatives to artificially propagate these species or produce plantations of them; e) existing regulations and ownership structures pertaining to the species, and their habitat, drivers of habitat trends and management measures in place or under development, including sustainable harvest practices; and f) suggestions for meetings or other venues that might provide opportunities to collaborate or share information regarding harvest and management of these species.
18.206	Boswellia trees (Boswellia spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall compile and submit for consideration of the Plants Committee information received as per Decision 18.205.
18.207	Boswellia trees (Boswellia spp.)	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall review the information received and other relevant information available to it regarding the status, management, and trade in <i>Boswellia</i> species, highlighting key gaps in knowledge and making recommendations to inform further efforts to address the sustainable use and conservation of these species, including whether any of the species meet the criteria for listing under CITES.
18.208	Boswellia trees (Boswellia spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Range States and Parties involved in management, propagation, or trade of <i>Boswellia</i> species are encouraged to provide information to the Secretariat, as requested in Decision 18.205.

18.209	Humphead wrasse (<i>Cheilinus undulatus</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat, subject to external funding, shall invite the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Groupers and Wrasses Specialist Group to assist it in supporting major exporting and importing countries of <i>Cheilinus undulatus</i> , upon request, to address remaining CITES implementation challenges and ensure well-regulated, sustainable management of, and trade in, the species.
18.210	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to available resources: a) convey to Parties the findings of the study presented in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 on the legal and illegal international trade in marine turtles with a view to inform targeted conservation and management efforts; b) refer the study contained in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 to the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting and the Animals Committee at its 31st meeting for consideration; c) support Parties, upon request, with the CITES-relevant aspects of the development, implementation and/or update of management and action plans for the conservation of marine turtles; d) assist Parties, upon request, with the identification of inconsistencies, overlaps and gaps in national legislation and regulations relating to the implementation of CITES for marine turtles; and e) convey to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) the findings of the study presented in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 to inform efforts, including by Regional Fisheries Bodies, addressing marine turtle bycatch and illegal take, and promote collaboration, as appropriate. f) issue a Notification requesting that Parties provide information on implementation of Decisions 18.210 to 18.214 for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting; and g) report on the implementation of Decisions 18.210 to 18.215, and on any technical and financial mechanisms and opportunities that can be provided through CITES to assist Parties in marine turtle conservation, to the 31st meeting of the Animals Committee and the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committees as appropriate, and to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.211	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are urged to: a) review the findings of the study presented in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 and use these to inform targeted conservation and management efforts; b) fully implement the provisions of CITES that are relevant to the seven species of marine turtles listed on Appendix I; c) develop and/or update management and action plans for the conservation of marine turtles inclusive of the recommendations in information document CoP18 Inf. 18; d) use CITES fora, including the Animals Committee and Standing Committee, to raise and discuss challenges relating to illegal trade in marine turtles;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e) collect in a standardized manner, including at different governance levels, illegal wildlife trade data, that can be used for monitoring trade in CITES-listed marine turtles; and submit comprehensive and accurate information on illegal trade in marine turtles in their annual illegal trade reports to the Secretariat; f) improve monitoring, detection and law enforcement activities related to marine turtles in coastal areas and at transaction points (e.g. in the marketplace, online, maritime areas, and at air- and seaports); g) collect samples of marine turtles for DNA analysis, including from seized specimens, to determine species involved and populations of origin and provide these to forensic and other research institutions capable of reliably determining the origin or age of the samples in support of, for example, research, investigations and prosecutions; h) improve intra- and interregional cooperation, collaboration and exchange of actionable intelligence regarding illegal take of and trade in marine turtles; i) ascertain key trade routes, methods, volumes, and trade 'hot-spots' using available technologies, and enforce national and international regulations or other mechanisms that apply to marine turtles take and trade; j) improve accountability for the practices undertaken by all vessels and improve the monitoring and control related to CITES-listed marine turtles at landing sites; k) support fisheries management authorities in implementing turtle mitigation and safe handling practices; l) coordinate efforts at the regional level, involving Parties and bodies with relevant mandates, to identify and address trade, use and other threats, such as fisheries' interactions with marine turtles (particularly bycatch), with a view to supporting multilateral environmental agreements; and m) respond to the Notification issued by the Secretariat per Decision 18.210, paragraph f) on the implementation of Decisions 18.210 to 18.214.
18.212	<p>Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)</p>	<p><i>Directed to Parties that are marine turtle range States</i></p>	<p>Parties that are marine turtle range States are urged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) develop, and where such legislation already exists, conduct a thorough review of legislation that protects marine turtles, taking account of its effectiveness in enforcement and management including direct and incidental harvest, and standardization or alignment with other national and sub-national legislation, neighbouring states, as well as international regulations and commitments; b) where domestic harvest of specimens of marine turtles, including eggs, is legal, ensure any domestic harvest quotas are established based on robust science-based methods and the principles of sustainability, including accounting for existing quota or no-take quotas in other States' that share marine turtle stock(s), taking into account national enforcement capacity; c) respond to the Notification issued by the Secretariat pursuant to Decision 18.210 paragraph f) on the implementation of Decisions 18.210 to 18.215.

18.213	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations and other entities</i>	Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial or technical assistance for, <i>inter alia</i> : a) training and capacity building of relevant authorities at the national and regional level, including on the implementation and enforcement of national and international regulations that apply to marine turtles, and on identification, monitoring, reporting and wildlife enforcement capability; b) build community and political awareness on the conservation status of marine turtles and on the importance of promoting the conservation of the species through compliance with CITES at the national level; c) research into the socioeconomics associated with the legal and illegal harvest and use of specimens of marine turtles, including eggs, including assessments of the sustainability of alternative livelihood options for communities depending on marine turtles and the motivations for their use; d) research that establishes a baseline for the status and distribution of marine turtles in the different countries/regions; and e) research into the scale and impact that national (and its international) artisanal, semi-industrial and industrial fisheries, including illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, have on marine turtle populations and their linkage to illegal trade.
18.214	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat, Parties and other organizations</i>	Parties, the Secretariat and relevant multilateral agreements such as the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), its Indian Ocean and South-East Asia Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding (IOSEA), the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC), and the Ramsar Convention and the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) are encouraged to communicate and collaborate with each other on the management and sustainable use of marine turtles to ensure the compatibility of activities, optimize resources, promote research, and enhance synergies concerning the conservation of marine turtles.
18.215	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC)</i>	The International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) is encouraged to, as appropriate, use data on illegal trade in marine turtles submitted under Decision 18.211, paragraph e) to the Secretariat in Parties' annual illegal trade reports in its activities.
18.216	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee is asked to: a) review, at its 31st meeting, the study contained in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 and any additional information received by the Secretariat in response to the Notification issued under Decision 18.210, paragraph f); and b) submit recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration by the Standing Committee.
18.217	Marine turtles (Cheloniidae spp. and Dermochelyidae spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee is asked to: a) review, at its 73rd meeting, the study contained in information document CoP18 Inf. 18 and any additional information received by the Secretariat in response to the

			Notification issued under Decision 18.210, paragraph f), and the recommendations of the Animals Committee; and b) submit its recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
18.218	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to: a) provide information to the Secretariat in support of the study called for in Decision 18.221 paragraph a), in particular on any national management measures that prohibit commercial take or trade, and in response to the Notification called for in Decision 18.220; b) in accordance with their national legislation, provide a report to the Secretariat about the assessment of stockpiles of shark parts and derivatives for CITES-listed species stored and obtained before the entry into force of the inclusion in CITES in order to control and monitor their trade, if applicable; c) inspect, to the extent possible under their national legislation, shipments of shark parts and derivatives in transit or being transhipped, to verify presence of CITES-listed species and verify the presence of a valid CITES permit or certificate as required under the Convention or to obtain satisfactory proof of its existence; and d) continue to support the implementation of the Convention for sharks, including by providing funding for the implementation of Decisions 18.219, 18.221 and 18.222, and considering seconding staff members with expertise in fisheries and the sustainable management of aquatic resources to the Secretariat.
18.219	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall continue to provide capacity-building assistance for implementing Appendix-II shark and ray listings to Parties upon request.
18.220	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) issue a Notification to the Parties, inviting Parties to: i) provide concise summaries of new information on their shark and ray conservation and management activities, in particular: A. the making of non-detriment findings; B. the making of legal acquisition findings; C. the identification of CITES-listed shark-products in trade; and D. recording stockpiles of commercial and/or pre-Convention shark parts and derivatives for CITES Appendix-II elasmobranch species and controlling the entry of these stocks into trade; and ii) highlight any questions, concerns or difficulties Parties are having in writing or submitting documentation on authorized trade for the CITES Trade Database; b) provide information from the CITES Trade Database on commercial trade in CITES-listed sharks and rays since 2000, sorted by species and, if possible, by product;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) disseminate existing guidance identified, or newly developed, guidance on the control and monitoring of stockpiles of shark parts and derivatives pursuant to Decision 18.224, paragraph b) by the Standing Committee; and d) collate this information for the consideration of the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee.
18.221	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, and in collaboration with relevant organizations and experts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) conduct a study to investigate the apparent mismatch between the trade in products of CITES-listed sharks recorded in the CITES Trade Database and what would be expected against the information available on catches of listed species; and b) bring the results of the study in paragraph a) to the attention of the Animals Committee or Standing Committee, as appropriate.
18.222	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat, subject to external funding, is requested to collaborate closely with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) verify that information about Parties' shark management measures are correctly reflected in the shark measures database developed by FAO (http://www.fao.org/ipoa-sharks/database-of-measures/en/) and, if not, support FAO in correcting the information; b) compile clear imagery of wet and dried unprocessed shark fins (particularly, but not exclusively, those from CITES-listed species) along with related species level taxonomic information to facilitate refinement of iSharkFin software developed by FAO; c) conduct a study analysing the trade in non-fin shark products of CITES-listed species, including the level of species mixing in trade products and recommendations on how to address any implementation challenges arising from the mixing that may be identified; and d) bring the results of activities in paragraphs a) to c) to the attention of the Animals Committee or Standing Committee, as appropriate.
18.223	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee, in collaboration with relevant organisations and experts, shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) continue to develop guidance to support the making of non-detriment findings (NDFs), in particular in data-poor, multi-species, small-scale/artisanal, and non-target (bycatch) situations, for CITES-listed shark species; and b) report the outcomes of its work under Decision 18.223, paragraph a) to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.224	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) develop guidance on the making of legal acquisition findings, and related assessments for introductions from the sea for CITES-listed shark species in the context of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 18.7 on <i>Legal acquisition findings</i>;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) develop new guidance or identify existing guidance on the control and monitoring of stockpiles of shark parts and derivatives, in particular for specimens caught prior to the inclusion of the species in Appendix II; and c) report its findings under Decision 18.224, paragraphs a) and b) to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.225	Sharks and rays (Elasmobranchii spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee and the Standing Committee</i>	The Animals Committee and Standing Committee shall analyse and review the results of any of the activities under Decisions 18.221 and 18.222 brought to their attention by the Secretariat, and with the support of the Secretariat prepare a joint report for the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of these Decisions.
18.226	Trade in Asian elephants (<i>Elephas maximus</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>All Parties involved in the trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) undertake, as necessary, investigations into the illegal trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives, and endeavour to enforce, and where necessary improve, national laws concerning international trade in specimens of Asian elephants with the explicit intention of preventing illegal trade; b) develop strategies to manage captive Asian elephant populations; c) ensure that trade in, and cross-border movements of live Asian elephants are conducted in compliance with CITES, including the provisions in Article III, paragraph 3, for Asian elephants of wild origin; d) collaborate in the development and application of a regional system for registering, marking and tracing live Asian elephants, requesting as necessary assistance from experts, specialized agencies or the Secretariat; and e) at the request of the Secretariat, provide information on the implementation of this Decision for reporting by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee.
18.227	Trade in Asian elephants (<i>Elephas maximus</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) request a report from all Parties involved in trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives on the implementation of paragraphs a) through d) of Decision 18.226; b) upon request and pending the availability of external funding, assist range States of Asian elephants in their implementation of Decision 18.226; and c) incorporate information provided by range States in accordance with Decision 18.226, paragraph e), together with other findings and recommendations concerning trade in Asian elephants and their parts and derivatives as appropriate, into its regular reporting to the Standing Committee on the implementation of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Trade in elephant specimens</i>.
18.228	Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall include available materials to support CITES implementation for seahorses (non-detriment findings guidance, identification materials, etc.) on the CITES website.

18.229	Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) issue a Notification to the Parties inviting them to inform the Secretariat of any national management measures that regulate or restrict international trade in seahorses, and on how they are implementing and enforcing such measures for seahorses; b) compile the responses received to the Notification issued as per paragraph a) of the present Decision and communicate them to CITES Authorities through a Notification to the Parties and through its website; and c) subject to external funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) commission a study on trade in <i>Hippocampus</i> spp., including applicable regulations, to understand shifts in international trade patterns since the inclusion of seahorses in Appendix II and the Review of Significant Trade of <i>Hippocampus</i> spp., as well as the implementation challenges and possible solutions; and ii) organize an expert workshop to discuss the implementation and enforcement of CITES for trade in <i>Hippocampus</i> spp., including the recommendations and outcomes from the Review of Significant Trade process, and propose practical steps to address implementation and enforcement challenges; and d) report on the implementation of paragraphs a) through c) of the present Decision to the Animals and Standing Committee, as appropriate.
18.230	Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>To support the effective implementation of Appendix II of CITES for seahorses, Parties are invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) inform the Secretariat of any national management measures that regulate or restrict international trade in seahorses; and how they are implementing and enforcing such measures for seahorses; b) share copies of their non-detriment findings with the Secretariat for posting on the CITES website to assist other CITES Parties; and c) inform seahorse traders within their jurisdiction of any quotas, including any zero quotas, and any trade suspensions for seahorses to further facilitate compliance and enforcement by all participants in the trade.
18.231	Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) use existing tools for effective CITES implementation and enforcement that are relevant to seahorses; b) where quotas, trade suspensions, or both are in place, develop monitoring programmes for seahorses in their national waters to understand effectiveness of these actions and any other relevant implementation and enforcement actions for seahorse conservation and management; and c) share the design and initial results of these programmes with the Secretariat to report to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.232	Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall analyse and review the results of any activities under Decision 18.229 and other relevant information available to the Animals Committee and</p>

			develop recommendations as appropriate to ensure sustainable and legal trade in seahorses.
18.233	Seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall analyse and review the results of any activities under Decision 18.229 and develop recommendations as appropriate to strengthen CITES implementation and enforcement for trade in seahorses.
18.234	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) subject to external resources, undertake the following study: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) provide or confirm, with the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee, a reference list of genera that are commonly referred to as “rosewood tree species”, noting that at present the species from the following CITES and non-CITES listed genera have been assumed as such by the CITES community: <i>Caesalpinia</i>, <i>Cassia</i>, <i>Dalbergia</i>, <i>Dicorynia</i>, <i>Guibourtia</i>, <i>Machaerium</i>, <i>Millettia</i>, <i>Pterocarpus</i> and <i>Swartzia</i>; ii) taking into consideration the existing information (including that developed under the ongoing CITES Tree Species Programme), and based on the available lists of species in trade, compile available data and information to address information gaps on the biology, population status, management, use and trade for CITES-listed rosewood tree species as a first priority; and as a second priority, non-CITES listed rosewood tree species, in particular those that are highly sought after for the timber trade; iii) assess the effects of international trade on wild populations of the species concerned; and iv) take into account the relevant work on timber identification to be carried out under Decisions 18.140 to 18.143 on <i>Identification of timber and other wood products</i>; b) issue a Notification seeking input from Parties, in particular exporting, re-exporting and importing countries, and relevant stakeholders to provide information to the Secretariat to share with the consultant for the purposes of completing the study outlined under paragraph a) above; c) report on progress regarding the study to the Plants Committee; d) taking into consideration the advice of the Plants Committee, and subject to external funding, organize an international workshop, inviting relevant range States, trading countries, relevant organizations, industry representatives and other experts, with a view to presenting and discussing the results, and develop recommendations; e) submit the final study for consideration by the Plants Committee, as well as the outcomes of the workshop if held; and f) seek external resources to support the study, and the workshop as appropriate.
18.235	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are encouraged to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) respond to the Notification described in paragraph b) of Decision 18.234 in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders; and

			b) support the work of the consultancy, and the workshop as appropriate, including seeking external resources from relevant stakeholders.
18.236	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall: a) consider the progress reported by the Secretariat and make recommendations regarding the study and the need for the international workshop referred to under Decision 18.234; b) consider the final study, and outcomes of the workshop if held, and make recommendations on how to enhance implementation for CITES-listed rosewood tree species with a particular focus on non-detriment findings including with respect to capacity building; and make further recommendations regarding non-CITES listed rosewood tree species; and c) make recommendations to the Standing Committee and the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.
18.237	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider any report prepared in response to Decision 18.236 and identify any implementation and enforcement issues associated with the international trade in rosewood tree species, particularly those already listed in the Appendices, and develop recommendations for more effective implementation of the Convention for rosewood tree species. The Standing Committee shall furthermore take into account considerations related to revisions to annotations, and identification of terms in annotations that require further clarification and convey them for consideration by the working group on annotations.
18.238	Pangolins (<i>Manis</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to all pangolin range States</i>	All pangolin range States that have not yet done so, are encouraged to take urgent steps to develop and implement <i>in situ</i> pangolin management and conservation programmes, which includes population assessments, as anticipated in paragraph 7 of Resolution Conf. 17.10 on <i>Conservation of and trade in pangolins</i> , and report on the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat.
18.239	Pangolins (<i>Manis</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding, work with the Species Survival Commission Pangolin Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other relevant experts and in collaboration with the pangolin range States to develop conversion parameters for all pangolin species, that will enable the reliable determination of the number of animals associated with any quantity of pangolin scales seized, that can be used by Parties in cases where national legislation demands that such information be provided for court purposes.
18.240	Pangolins (<i>Manis</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) report on the implementation of Decisions 18.238 and 18.239, to the Animals Committee, as appropriate; b) bring any tools or materials brought to its attention in accordance with Decision 18.242, to the attention of the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, as

			<p>appropriate, together with any recommendations it may have, and taking into account any subsequent recommendations from the Animals Committee or the Standing Committee, make such tools or materials available to the Parties;</p> <p>c) subject to external funding, work with relevant experts and the pangolin range States to prepare a report for review by the Animals Committee and Standing Committee on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the national conservation status of pangolin species, ii) legal and illegal trade in pangolins, iii) stocks of specimens of pangolins and stockpile management, and iv) enforcement issues.
18.241	Pangolins (<i>Manis spp.</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) consider the report and any recommendations of the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.240 paragraphs b) and c), and any recommendations of the Animals Committee in accordance with Decision 18.243. b) make recommendations to the Parties or the Secretariat as appropriate; and c) report the results of its work together with any recommendations it may have, to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.242	Pangolins (<i>Manis spp.</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and nongovernmental organizations</i>	<p>Parties, intergovernmental organizations, international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations that develop tools or materials that could assist Parties in the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.10, are invited to bring such tools or materials to the attention of the Secretariat.</p>
18.243	Pangolins (<i>Manis spp.</i>)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall review any information brought to its attention by the Secretariat in accordance with Decisions 18.238, 18.239, 18.240 and 18.242, and make recommendations as appropriate to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat.</p>
18.244	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in collaboration with African lion range States, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and, as appropriate, taking into consideration the joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative and the <i>Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) support the implementation of activities in joint African lion conservation plans and strategies that relate to trade in African lion specimens and the implementation of CITES and, as needed, the review of such plans and strategies; b) jointly with the CMS Secretariat undertake a comparative study of African lion population trends and conservation and management practices, such as lion hunting, within and between countries, including the role, if any, of international trade; c) support capacity-building in African lion conservation and management including where appropriate, in the making of non-detriment findings by range States according

			<p>to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on <i>Non-detriment findings</i> and the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.9 on <i>Trade in hunting trophies of species listed in Appendix I or II</i>;</p> <p>d) assist in maintaining a joint CITES-CMS webportal on African lions, that also allows for the posting and sharing of information and guidance on the conservation and management of African lions;</p> <p>e) share the <i>Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa</i> and any relevant update with the Animals Committee for its review, as appropriate; and</p> <p>f) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the 32nd meeting of the Animals Committee and the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee and to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.</p>
18.245	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) draft, terms of reference and a <i>modus operandi</i> for the CITES Big Cat Task Force prior to convening its first meeting and submit it to the 73rd Standing Committee for review and adoption, and subject to external resources:</p> <p>b) establish and convene, in consultation with the Standing Committee, a CITES Big Cats Task Force (Task Force), focusing on big cat species from Africa, Asia and Latin America, and consisting of representatives from Parties most affected by the illegal trade in big cats, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime partner organizations, other Parties and organizations, as appropriate, and experts who the Secretariat determines may contribute to the Task Force;</p> <p>c) provide support to the Task Force allowing it, <i>inter alia</i>, to:</p> <p>i) discuss enforcement and implementation issues related to the illegal trade in specimens of big cats;</p> <p>ii) as deemed appropriate, exchange intelligence and other information on the illegal trade in big cats; and</p> <p>iii) develop strategies and make recommendations to improve international cooperation regarding the enforcement of CITES concerning illegal trade in specimens of big cats; and</p> <p>d) report the findings and recommendations of the Task Force to the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee for its consideration, and for making its own recommendations as appropriate.</p>
18.246	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall, subject to external resources:</p> <p>a) conduct further research and analysis on the legal and illegal trade in lions and other big cats to better understand trends, linkages between trade in different species, and the commodities in trade which contain, or claim to contain, such specimens;</p> <p>b) assess whether the trade in lion specimens reported under purpose code "H" follows the guidance in Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Permits and certificates</i>,</p>

			<p>paragraph 3 h), and whether additional reporting specificities or descriptions are needed;</p> <p>c) develop guidance materials for the identification of lion and other big cat specimens in trade in consultation with relevant experts;</p> <p>d) develop and support, in consultation with relevant experts, the use of appropriate forensic-type techniques for identifying lions and other big cat species in trade;</p> <p>e) share relevant information generated through the implementation of this Decision with the CITES Big Cats Task Force; and</p> <p>f) report on the implementation of the present Decision to the 32nd meeting of the Animals and the 74th meeting of the Standing Committees as appropriate, and to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.</p>
18.247	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	<p>The Animals Committee shall:</p> <p>a) review the <i>Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa</i> and any relevant update, as appropriate;</p> <p>b) review the information reported by the Secretariat under Decisions 18.244 and 18.246, and submit recommendations to the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and African lion range States, as appropriate.</p>
18.248	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <p>a) review and adopt the draft terms of reference, membership and <i>modus operandi</i> for the CITES Big Cat Task Force submitted by the Secretariat as per Decision 18.245, paragraphs a) and b) prior to convening the first meeting of the Task Force;</p> <p>b) consider at its 74th meeting the reports submitted by the Animals Committee and the Secretariat, as per Decisions 18.244 to 18.247, and make recommendations to the Animals Committee, the Secretariat and African lion range States, as appropriate;</p> <p>c) recommend further actions to be taken, including the possible need for the development of a draft resolution, on the conservation of the African lion taking into consideration Decisions 18.244, 18.245 and 18.247; and</p> <p>d) report on the implementation of Decision 18.248, and formulate recommendations as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.</p>
18.249	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties, including range States and consumer countries of African lion, as relevant, are encouraged to:</p> <p>a) increase enforcement efforts to detect illegal, unreported or misreported trade in specimens of African lion and other big cats;</p> <p>b) use, where appropriate, South Africa's Barcode of Wildlife Project to help identify lion specimens in trade and, when importing lion specimens from South Africa, collaborate where necessary with relevant authorities in South Africa to improve the traceability of such specimens;</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) provide details on the observed and/or removed lion body parts in trade when collecting and communicating data on illegal killing and illegal trade in lions to CITES in their annual reports; and d) cooperate on lion conservation, including by sharing information on lion populations, illegal killing and illegal trade.
18.250	African lions (<i>Panthera leo</i>) and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	<i>Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities</i>	All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental, non-governmental organizations, donors and other entities are encouraged to support African lion range States and the Secretariat in their efforts to conserve and restore African lions across their range, taking into consideration the <i>Guidelines for the Conservation of Lions in Africa</i> ; and in implementing Decisions 18.244 to 18.246, and 18.249.
18.251	Jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) subject to the availability of external funding, commission a study on illegal trade in jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) map illegal trade in the jaguar throughout its range, including poaching, trade pathways and networks, and main markets that are driving this trade, and how it is connected to other wildlife trafficking activities in the region; ii) analyse the uses of jaguar specimens, both within range states and in international markets, as well as the extent to which illegally-sourced jaguar products are entering international trade; iii) analyse the <i>modus operandi</i> associated with illegal trade in jaguar specimens and possible drivers of this activity; and iv) characterize the overall impact of illegal trade on jaguar populations throughout the species' range; b) present the findings of the study referred to in Decision 18.251, paragraph a) to the Standing Committee together with any recommendations it may consider relevant; and c) issue a Notification seeking input from Parties, in particular exporting, re-exporting and importing countries affected by illegal trade in jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>) specimens, and relevant stakeholders to provide information to the Secretariat for the purposes of completing the study outlined in Decision 18.251, paragraph a).
18.252	Jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>), and relevant stakeholders</i>	<p>Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>) and relevant stakeholders, are encouraged to take action to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) support the preparation of the study referred to under paragraph a) of Decision 18.251; b) respond to the Notification as described in paragraph c) of Decision 18.251; c) recognize the jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>) as the flagship species of its range countries so that the protection and conservation of the species and its habitat becomes a joint priority;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) urgently adopt comprehensive legislation and enforcement controls aimed at eliminating the poaching of jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>) and illegal trade in their parts and derivatives, including online sales of specimens; e) promote the design and implementation of conservation corridors between range countries of the jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i>), strengthening cooperation mechanisms on a local, national and regional level in order to promote good conservation practices, channel investments to the conservation of the species, reduce the threats to the connectivity of its habitats, and strengthen the capacities of the main players involved; f) raise awareness about the importance of the jaguar, its role in the ecosystem and the threats it faces, including illegal trade; g) participate in conferences and workshops, among other events, in order to share experiences and knowledge about the priority issues identified to combat illegal trade in jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>); and h) consider making a voluntary contribution to conduct the study or implement its recommendations.
18.253	Jaguars (<i>Panthera onca</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the findings of the study referred to in Decision 18.251, paragraph a) as well as the report and recommendations of the Secretariat and make recommendations as appropriate until the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.254	Leopards (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) in Africa	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall share with the Animals Committee the <i>Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa</i> by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for its review.
18.255	Leopards (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) in Africa	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall review the <i>Roadmap for the Conservation of the Leopard in Africa</i> by IUCN, and make recommendations, as appropriate, concerning the aspects of it that relate to the implementation of CITES.
18.256	Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>Subject to available funds, the Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) within 12 months of the conclusion of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, commission a preliminary study on the scale and scope of international songbird trade to consider the management and conservation priorities of songbird taxa involved in such trade; b) consult with appropriate technical experts in the preparation of documents on the conservation, trade, management, enforcement and regulatory priorities of the songbird taxa identified; c) convene a technical workshop to consider the findings of the study and the reports referred to in paragraph b); d) invite the members of the Animals and Standing Committees, representatives from range, exporting, transit and consumer States, and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in the workshop; and

			e) make the results of the study and workshop, together with recommendations, available to the Animals Committee for its consideration.
18.257	Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall review document CoP18 Doc. 79 and the results of the study and workshop on trade in songbirds, with the recommendations of the Secretariat, as per Decision 18.256, and make its own recommendations to the Standing Committee or 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
18.258	Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations by the Animals Committee and make its own recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.259	Songbird trade and conservation management (Passeriformes)	<i>Directed to Parties, non-governmental organizations, commercial traders, and donors</i>	Parties and non-Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, commercial traders and donors are encouraged to provide funding to the Secretariat for the implementation of these Decisions.
18.260	African cherry (<i>Prunus africana</i>)	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall: a) review the recommendations from the <i>Prunus africana</i> -related discussions within the 'CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa' and advise the range States of <i>Prunus africana</i> of appropriate actions; and b) submit a report on the outcomes of Decision 18.260, paragraph a), and provide recommendations to the Standing Committee, as appropriate, and report to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.261	African cherry (<i>Prunus africana</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report to the Plants Committee at its 25th meeting about the recommendations from the <i>Prunus africana</i> -related discussions within the 'CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa' for consideration and advice to the range States of <i>Prunus africana</i> .
18.262	African cherry (<i>Prunus africana</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review any report received from the Plants Committee on the implementation of Decision 18.260 and provide recommendations as appropriate to the Parties and the Plants Committee.
17.256 (Rev. CoP18)	African grey parrots (<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>)	<i>Directed to range States of Psittacus erithacus</i>	The range States of <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> should, with the support of the Secretariat, relevant experts, relevant CITES Parties, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, develop and update National Action Plans, with timeframes, deliverables, and milestones, for the conservation of the species. The following key issues should be addressed: a) as appropriate, undertake a scientifically based field survey to establish the population status of the species, as well as population trends, in the range States to review progress made towards the restoration and conservation of the species, and in support of the activities proposed in paragraph c); b) implement law enforcement activities to combat illegal trade and report results in their annual illegal trade and implementation reports;

			<p>c) identify suitable habitat in range States for re-population of <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> where appropriate and feasible, using wild sourced specimens seized from illegal trade and following internationally agreed guidelines for any such reintroductions; and</p> <p>d) assess the possibility of establishing <i>in situ</i> captive-breeding facilities for the species, in collaboration with States with breeding facilities.</p>
17.258 (Rev. CoP18)	African grey parrots (<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties and the Secretariat</i>	<p>Until the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in the evaluation of applications to register facilities breeding <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> for commercial purposes, pursuant to Resolution Conf. 12.10 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Registration of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes</i>, consideration should be given to:</p> <p>a) the recommendations of the Management Authority and Scientific Authority of the Party;</p> <p>b) national measures to regulate domestic trade in this species which may not previously have been required due to its former Appendix-II status;</p> <p>c) any compliance measures directed to the Party submitting the application to register the facility; and</p> <p>d) whether the Party has been included in the Review of Significant Trade concerning the species in the prior 10 years from the effective listing date.</p>
18.263	Banggai cardinalfish (<i>Pterapogon kauderni</i>)	<i>Directed to Indonesia</i>	Indonesia is encouraged to continue its conservation and management measures to ensure the sustainability of international trade in <i>Pterapogon kauderni</i> , and submit a progress report on these measures, including on the implementation of recommendations made by the Animals Committee in document AC30 Com.1 (Rev. by Sec.), to the Secretariat for onward transmittal to the Animals Committee, with its own recommendations, as appropriate.
18.264	Banggai cardinalfish (<i>Pterapogon kauderni</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to consider supporting Indonesia in implementing Decision 18.263.
18.265	Banggai cardinalfish (<i>Pterapogon kauderni</i>)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall review the report submitted by Indonesia as referred to under Decision 18.263 and make recommendations during its 31st meeting (AC31).
18.266	Helmeted hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties, especially range, transit and consumer States, should provide information to the Secretariat on their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11 on <i>Conservation of, and trade in, helmeted hornbill</i> , including any challenges encountered, and provide information in response to the Notification issued pursuant to Decision 18.267, paragraph c) below.
18.267	Helmeted hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) subject to the availability of external funding and upon request, assist relevant Parties in their implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11, especially regarding the implementation of the helmeted hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>): <i>Status Review, range-wide conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2018-2027)</i> (“Action Plan”), and challenges communicated under Decision 18.266;</p>

			<p>b) liaise as appropriate with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) and other relevant networks and organizations to convey Resolution Conf. 17.11, draw attention to the Action Plan for the conservation of the helmeted hornbill, and invite them to consider these in planning and executing their activities; and</p> <p>c) through a Notification and bilateral consultation as needed, request Parties, especially, range, transit and consumer States and other relevant experts, to provide information on helmeted hornbill trade routes as well as the implementation of Resolution Conf. 17.11.</p>
18.268	Helmeted hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall provide a report, including the responses received and its recommendations, to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee on the implementation of Decisions 18.266 and 18.267 and, on the basis of recommendations by the Standing Committee, take additional actions as appropriate.
18.269	Helmeted hornbill (<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee at its 73rd and 74th meeting shall review the implementation of Decisions 18.266 to 18.268 and any other information made available to it and, based on its review and deliberations make any recommendations to the Secretariat and Parties (range, transit and consumer States) for further actions, and report to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.270	Saiga antelope (<i>Saiga spp.</i>)	<i>Directed to range States of saiga antelope (<i>Saiga spp.</i>) (Kazakhstan, Mongolia, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), and important consumer and trading countries of saiga parts and derivatives</i>	<p>a) The range States of the saiga antelope (<i>Saiga spp.</i>) and important consumer and trading countries of saiga parts and derivatives, as identified by the Secretariat on the basis of CITES trade data, should fully implement the measures directed to them in the <i>Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope for 2016-2020</i> [MTIWP (2016-2020)] and for 2021-2025 [MTIWP (2021-2025)], developed in support of the <i>Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (<i>Saiga spp.</i>)</i> and its <i>Saiga Action Plan</i>; and</p> <p>b) Consistent with the measures directed to Saiga range States in the <i>Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope for 2016-2020</i> [MTIWP (2016-2020)], the range States of the saiga antelope are encouraged to establish internal market controls for saiga parts, including registration of stockpiles, labelling of parts and products, and registration of manufacturers and traders, and report such information to the CITES Secretariat.</p>
18.271	Saiga antelope (<i>Saiga spp.</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>Subject to the availability of external resources, the Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) assist the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) in organizing the fourth meeting of the signatories of the <i>Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (<i>Saiga spp.</i>)</i>, expected to be held in the Russian Federation in 2020;</p>

			<p>b) in collaboration with the CMS Secretariat, provide inputs as needed in developing a <i>Medium-Term International Work Programme for the Saiga Antelope for 2021-2025</i> [MTIWP (2021-2025)], developed in support of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (<i>Saiga</i> spp.) and its Saiga Action Plan;</p> <p>c) review, in consultation with the CMS Secretariat, the conservation of and trade in saiga antelope, <i>Saiga</i> spp., based on available data on legal and illegal trade, materials and outcomes of the fourth meeting of saiga MoU signatories, and stakeholder consultations, and report any consequent findings and recommendations to the Animals Committee, and to the Standing Committee in the context of the implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.3 on <i>Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)</i> and the joint CMS-CITES work programme;</p> <p>d) consult saiga range States and major trading and consumer States concerning their management of stockpiles of saiga specimens; review processes and practices; and provide assistance in ensuring effective stockpile management and monitoring, including the development of inventories and strengthening stockpile security; and</p> <p>e) report to the Animals Committee and Standing Committee on the implementation of this Decision, as appropriate.</p>
18.272	Saiga antelope (<i>Saiga</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall, as appropriate, consider any findings and recommendations submitted by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.271, and make recommendations to the Standing Committee.
18.273	Saiga antelope (<i>Saiga</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall, as appropriate, consider any findings and recommendations submitted by the Animals Committee and the Secretariat in accordance with Decisions 18.271 and 18.272, and make recommendations as necessary.
18.274	Saiga antelope (<i>Saiga</i> spp.)	<i>Directed to saiga antelope range States, Parties, multilateral environmental agreements, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders</i>	Saiga antelope range States, Parties, multilateral environmental agreements, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders are encouraged to collaborate in the conservation and restoration of the saiga antelope (<i>Saiga</i> spp.), and to support the implementation of MTIWP (2016-2020) and MTIWP (2021-2025).
18.275	Queen conch (<i>Strombus gigas</i>)	<i>Directed to the range States of Strombus gigas</i>	The range States of <i>Strombus gigas</i> are encouraged to: <p>a) collaborate to implement the <i>Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan</i>, and develop national Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plans, as appropriate;</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) continue to collect data on weight of <i>S. gigas</i> by processing grade in order to update and improve the regional conversion factors, and establish or update national conversion factors, taking into account the spatial variability and characteristics of the species; c) collaborate in developing and implementing joint research programmes at the sub-regional or regional level to support the making of non-detriment findings that take into account all fishing mortality, promote relevant research and capacity-building activities through regional fisheries management entities and mobilize financial resources for data collection; d) promote and collaborate in developing and implementing public education and awareness programmes regarding the conservation and sustainable use of <i>S. gigas</i>; e) continue to collaborate in exploring ways to enhance the traceability of specimens of <i>S. gigas</i> in international trade, including, but not limited to, catch certificates, labelling systems and the application of genetic techniques, and consider sharing relevant experiences with the Secretariat, Parties and the Standing Committee, as appropriate, in the context of discussions on traceability systems for trade in CITES-listed species; f) collaborate on combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity; g) make available to the Standing Committee, through the Secretariat, information concerning illegal trade in queen conch, including surveillance and enforcement activities, as appropriate; and h) provide information to the Secretariat on the implementation of paragraphs a) to f) of this Decision to allow it to report at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with Decision 18.280, as appropriate.
18.276	Queen conch (<i>Strombus gigas</i>)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	If requested by range States of <i>S. gigas</i> or the working group on queen conch composed of the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC), the Central American Fisheries and Aquaculture Organization (OSPESCA), the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and CITES, the Animals Committee shall provide advice regarding the making of non-detriment findings for trade, and on any other technical matters.
18.277	Queen conch (<i>Strombus gigas</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	On the basis of reporting by the Secretariat in compliance with Decision 18.275, paragraphs e) and g), the Standing Committee shall review traceability, especially for meat, and enforcement issues concerning international trade in queen conch and make recommendations as appropriate.
18.278	Queen conch (<i>Strombus gigas</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall continue to collaborate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CITES working group on queen conch, WECAFC and other relevant international organizations, and, subject to external funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide assistance to range States of <i>S. gigas</i> in order to enhance the capacity of their CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, fisheries authorities and other

			<p>stakeholders to implement the <i>Regional Queen Conch Fisheries Management and Conservation Plan</i> and national management plans and make scientifically robust non-detriment findings; and</p> <p>b) provide assistance to range States of <i>S. gigas</i> on relevant enforcement issues and report new developments in this regard to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.</p>
18.279	Queen conch (<i>Strombus gigas</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall monitor the development of traceability systems for queen conch and report relevant developments to the Standing Committee, as appropriate.
18.280	Queen conch (<i>Strombus gigas</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall collate the information provided in accordance with Decision 18.275, paragraph h), and report on the progress in the implementation of these Decisions at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.281	Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i>)	<i>Directed to the range States of the Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i>)</i>	<p>Range States are encouraged to collaborate and:</p> <p>a) conduct studies aiming to:</p> <p>i) estimate population size of the Titicaca water frog; and,</p> <p>ii) identify and monitor all international illegal trade of specimens of Titicaca water frog;</p> <p>b) strengthen international cooperation mechanisms for the conservation of the Titicaca water frog, and combat its illegal trade;</p> <p>c) develop and implement additional demand reduction strategies;</p> <p>d) continue to raise awareness on the importance of the conservation of the Titicaca water frog, its ecological role, cultural value, and threats, particularly the illegal trade; and</p> <p>e) report on implementation of paragraphs a) through d) above to the Animals Committee.</p>
18.282	Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties requesting relevant information as per Decision 18.281, paragraph a), and compile responses and provide them to the range States.
18.283	Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties and others</i>	<p>Parties are encouraged to:</p> <p>a) provide financial and technical assistance to support the implementation of Decision 18.281; and,</p> <p>b) provide relevant information as requested in the Notification mentioned in Decision 18.282 with a view to complement Decision 18.281, paragraphs a) through d).</p>
18.284	Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i>)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall consider any report submitted by Parties as per Decision 18.281, paragraph e) and develop recommendations for consideration by the Standing Committee or the Conference of Parties, as appropriate.
18.285	Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider any report submitted by the Animals Committee as per Decision 18.284 and report to the Conference of Parties, as appropriate.

18.286	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	<i>Directed to Madagascar</i>	Madagascar should: a) review its implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Conservation of and trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles</i> ; and b) report to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee on its implementation of Resolution Conf. 11.9 (Rev. CoP18), including in its report, information on any seizures, arrests, prosecutions and convictions secured as a result of activities implemented to address illegal trade in tortoises from Madagascar.
18.287	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the report from Madagascar in accordance with Decision 18.286, and any recommendations from the Secretariat, and consider if any further measures need to be implemented by Madagascar to address illegal trade in tortoises as it affects the Party.
18.288	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to available funding, contract consultants to develop, in collaboration with relevant Parties, experts and the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), a guide on categories of turtle parts and derivatives in trade, for national agencies responsible for wildlife law enforcement, to raise their awareness of the trade in these types of specimens, to enable initial recognition of such specimens, and to provide guidance on further identification resources and expertise that can be consulted.
18.289	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, to build upon the outcomes of the CITES Tortoise and Freshwater Turtles Task Force and support the initiation of targeted investigations and enforcement action, work with INTERPOL to put in place arrangements for the convening of an INTERPOL Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Management (RIACM) meeting.
18.290	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall report at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the implementation of Decisions 18.288 and 18.289.
18.291	Tortoises and freshwater turtles (Testudines spp.)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall review the guide on categories of turtle parts and derivatives in trade, developed in accordance with Decision 18.288 and make recommendations for consideration by the Secretariat.
18.292	Totoaba (Totoaba macdonaldi)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, are encouraged to: a) communicate to the Secretariat and the CITES Authorities of relevant Parties information on seizures of specimens of totoaba, arrests of those engaged in illegal take and trade, results of any prosecutions, and actions taken to implement this Decision; b) engage in awareness-raising activities on the illegal trade in totoaba, and its severe implications for the conservation of vaquita (<i>Phocoena sinus</i>), including demand reduction campaigns; c) eliminate supply and demand for illegally-sourced specimens of totoaba, and strengthen national policies and law enforcement measures to prevent and address their illegal trade;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) support efforts related to the recovery and monitoring of wild populations of totoaba and vaquita; e) support Mexico in the implementation of Decision 18.293, including support for gillnet retrieval programmes; and f) provide financial and in-kind support for the implementation of the study called for in Decision 18.294, paragraph c) to be presented before the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee.
18.293	Totoaba (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i>)	<i>Directed to Mexico</i>	<p>Mexico is urged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) take immediate and effective actions by 1 November 2019 in response to the threats to totoaba and vaquita posed by illegal trade by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) deploying governmental authorities with legal powers of seizure and arrest, together with the Navy, to effectively prevent fishers and vessels from entering the Vaquita Refuge area, and invite the Secretariat to assess the effectiveness and impact of these measures before the end of 2019; ii) collecting and analysing information on organized crime groups involved in the illegal trade in totoaba, convening multi-disciplinary investigative teams to work in close collaboration with local authorities in key areas of concern, and undertaking intelligence-driven operations and investigations for addressing illegal trade in totoaba; iii) providing regular (every six months) updates on these actions and their results to the Secretariat; and iv) establishing and operationalizing, together with relevant Parties, the trilateral enforcement contact group called for in the outcomes of the 2017 “Trilateral Meeting China/United States/Mexico On The Combat Against Illegal Traffic Of Totoaba Fish (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i>) August 23-25, Ensenada, Mexico”; b) intensify efforts and to secure resources to expand gillnet removal efforts to maintain the Vaquita Refuge area as a net-free zone, and take all necessary measures to protect net removal teams and destroy confiscated nets; c) adhere to the implementation of Decision 43 COM 7B.26, adopted at the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee (Baku, 2019); and d) submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of Decision 18.293, paragraphs a) to d) above, as well as the information required in Decision 18.292, paragraph a), to the Secretariat in time for it to convey this to the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting, together with any recommendations it may have.
18.294	Totoaba (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) subject to external resources and measurable progress made in implementing actions identified in Decisions 18.292 and 18.293, consider convening before the end of 2019 a meeting of range, transit and consumer States of totoaba, and selected organizations and stakeholders, to evaluate progress made in combating illegal fishing of totoaba, eliminating supply and demand for illegally-sourced specimens of

			<p>totoaba, and strengthening law enforcement measures to prevent and address their illegal trade;</p> <p>b) engage with partner agencies of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) in support of activities that could facilitate the initiation of targeted joint investigations and enforcement action from source to destination across the entire illegal trade chain;</p> <p>c) subject to the availability of external resources and in consultation with organizations with relevant expertise, undertake the study on vaquita and totoaba outlined in Annex 2 to document CoP18 Doc. 89 (Rev. 1); and</p> <p>d) report the information communicated by Parties and Mexico in accordance with Decisions 18.292 and 18.293, as well as the outcomes of the meeting convened in accordance with paragraph a) above, to the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting together with any recommendations it may have.</p>
18.295	Totoaba (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i>)	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	<p>The Standing Committee shall:</p> <p>a) review and assess any information and recommendations submitted by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.294; and</p> <p>b) based on its assessment, and if not satisfied with timely progress in the implementation of Decisions 18.292 and 18.293, make any appropriate recommendations within the mandate of the Standing Committee in accordance with Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>CITES compliance procedures</i>.</p>
17.302	African tree species	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	<p>The Plants Committee shall form a working group on African tree species with the following terms of reference, as well as any other terms it deems appropriate:</p> <p>a) The working group will work primarily via electronic means;</p> <p>b) The working group will seek to facilitate the circulation and exchange of experiences among the range States, importing countries and other stakeholders on the sustainable use and management of CITES-listed African tree species;</p> <p>c) The working group will seek to identify gaps and weaknesses in the capacity of range States of African tree species to effectively implement CITES for these species;</p> <p>d) The working group will examine how the processes currently used by countries to develop annual export quotas compare with the processes recommended under CITES and develop recommendations for reconciling them;</p> <p>e) The working group will explore the conversion factors used for different commodities (e.g., logs, sawn wood, bark) and develop recommendations for improving such processes;</p> <p>f) The working group will seek to identify other African tree species that may benefit from inclusion in the CITES Appendices;</p> <p>g) The working group will bring any issues related to implementation and enforcement of CITES listings for African tree species to the attention of the Plants Committee; and</p> <p>h) The working group will report its findings and recommendations to the Plants Committee.</p>

14.81	Great whales	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	No periodic review of any great whale, including the fin whale, should occur while the moratorium by the International Whaling Commission is in place.
18.296	Marine ornamental fishes	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, subject to external funding: a) convene a technical workshop to consider the conservation priorities and management needs related to the trade in non-CITES listed marine ornamental fishes worldwide with a particular focus on data from importing and exporting countries; b) invite the Animals Committee, representatives from range States, exporting, and importing countries, fishery stakeholder, industry representatives and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in this workshop; c) contract appropriate technical experts to prepare workshop documents on marine ornamental fishes' biology; conservation status; trade and management; applicable trade regulations; and enforcement, and invite workshop participants to [submit the] contribute relevant information and expertise to the workshop; and d) submit findings and recommendations of this workshop to the Animals Committee.
18.297	Marine ornamental fishes	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall consider the results of this workshop and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.298	Marine ornamental fishes	<i>Directed to Parties, organizations and donors</i>	Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, private businesses, and other donors are encouraged to provide funding to the Secretariat for implementing Decision 18.296.
18.299	Neotropical tree species	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall: a) re-establish the intersessional neotropical tree species working group to work by electronic means to: i) agree on a priority list of CITES-listed neotropical tree species, and decide on associated activities that will most significantly contribute to the implementation of the mandates in Resolutions relating to neotropical tree species and that are addressed to the Plants Committee; ii) in the process of developing the priority list referred to in paragraph i) above, special consideration shall be given to neotropical tree species-listings in effect since the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; to neotropical tree species that are currently under the Review of Significant Trade (or other compliance mechanisms of the Convention); as well as those that are known to represent implementation challenges particularly in matters related to the formulation of non-detriment findings and identification of specimens in trade; iii) exchange experiences, information and skills between countries on the priority neotropical tree species'; and iv) report on progress made in the management and conservation of, and trade in, priority neotropical tree species, as well as on lessons learned, including on the

			<p>generation of studies on the status of their populations; implementation of traceability and chain of custody systems, which strengthen the transparency and sustainable trade in timber species; and creation of materials for identification and training in the different existing methods, with an emphasis on those that can be used easily by authorities; and</p> <p>b) review the progress reported by the intersessional working group and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.</p>
18.300	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	<p>The Secretariat shall:</p> <p>a) liaise with key players of medicinal and aromatic plant trade supply and value chains to raise awareness and understanding of CITES regulations for medicinal and aromatic plant species and of the impact of the trade in medicinal and aromatic plants on the conservation of CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plant species in the wild;</p> <p>b) subject to available resources, analyse challenges and opportunities in matters related to trade in medicinal and aromatic plants, including by:</p> <p>i) providing an updated overview of the international trade in CITES-listed plant species traded as medicinal products, and assessing whether existing databases with trade names of CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plant species can be linked to the CITES Checklist database;</p> <p>ii) reviewing ongoing work on sustainable and traceable supply and value chains for medicinal and aromatic plant products, focusing on certification schemes, standards and guidelines;</p> <p>iii) examining case studies involving local and traditional knowledge, and participatory assessments, monitoring and management of CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plant species; and</p> <p>iv) Based on the findings of i) to iii), developing recommendations to <i>inter alia</i> complement existing tools relating to the implementation of the Convention for CITES-listed medicinal and aromatic plants, and create synergies, as appropriate, with relevant intergovernmental organizations and stakeholders;</p> <p>c) report to the Plants Committee on the outcomes of the work outlined in paragraphs a) and b).</p>
18.301	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	<p>Parties are invited to take actions to raise awareness and understanding of CITES regulations for conservation of medicinal and aromatic plant species amongst those trading in species used for this purpose.</p>
18.302	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	<p>The Plants Committee shall inform and advise the process as per Decision 18.300, taking into account information document CoP18 Inf.11 and other relevant information, and review the Secretariat's report as per Decision 18.300 and make recommendations to the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.</p>

18.303	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review any report from the Plants Committee as per Decision 18.302 and make recommendations to Parties, as appropriate, and to the Conference of the Parties.
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AMENDMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE APPENDICES

Number	Title	Directed to	Text
18.304	Nomenclature (Cactaceae Checklist and its Supplement)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties shall inform the Secretariat on their experience in using the <i>CITES Cactaceae Checklist</i> (3rd edition) and its <i>Supplement</i> (2018) and any issues that may arise as they apply these lists, including feedback to improve it in the light of relevant updates of cacti taxonomy.
18.305	Nomenclature (Cactaceae Checklist and its Supplement)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) liaise with the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to obtain feedback on the utility of the <i>CITES Cactaceae Checklist</i> (3rd edition) and its <i>Supplement</i> (2018) and any queries that arise as they update relevant databases, taking into account feedback provided by Parties as per Decision 18.304; and b) report to the Plants Committee of this feedback and any comments it receives from the Parties in order for the Committee to review this at its regular meetings.
18.306	Nomenclature (Cactaceae Checklist and its Supplement)	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall review any report from the Secretariat related to the implementation of Decision 18.305 and, as appropriate, make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.307	Production of a CITES Checklist for <i>Dalbergia</i> spp.	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall, in close cooperation with the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee: a) subject to availability of external resources, undertake the development of an annotated CITES Checklist of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp., taking into consideration: i) relevant elements of paragraph 7 of document CoP18 Doc. 99, as well as the pertinence of including a distinction between timber and non-timber species of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp.; ii) the required research and other work needed for the production of such a Checklist; and iii) aspects related to its publication; and b) report on progress or results of this process to the Plants Committee at its regular meetings and seek its advice and input.
18.308	Production of a CITES Checklist for <i>Dalbergia</i> spp.	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall: a) consider progress and results reported by the Secretariat as per Decision 18.307; and b) make recommendations to the Secretariat and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate. These recommendations could include timelines for completion of the Checklist, or the adoption of a standard nomenclature reference for <i>Dalbergia</i> spp., amongst others.

18.309	Use of time-specific versions of online-databases as standard nomenclature references	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) continue to engage copyright-holders of relevant online-databases that might serve as standard nomenclature references and explore the possible use of time-specific versions for CITES services; for example, relevant databases include but are not limited to WoRMS, Fish Base, ESCHMEYER & FRICKE's <i>Catalog of Fishes</i> , <i>Amphibian Species of the World</i> , and <i>Corals of the World</i> as standard references; and b) report the results of its consultations to the Animals Committee.
18.310	Use of time-specific versions of online-databases as standard nomenclature references	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall: a) evaluate the results of the Secretariat's consultation; and b) develop recommendations on the use of time-specific online-databases as standard nomenclature references for decision by the Conference of the Parties at its 19th meeting.
18.311	Nomenclature and identification of corals	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) seek, if possible, a time-specific version of the WoRMS database; and b) report on progress to the Animals Committee.
18.312	Nomenclature and identification of corals	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall: a) consider the report of the Secretariat and proceed towards recommending for adoption of a standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed corals; b) update its list of coral taxa for which identification to genus level is acceptable, but which should be identified to species level where feasible, once a new standard nomenclature reference for CITES-listed coral species has been identified and provide the updated list to the Secretariat for dissemination; and c) report with recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.313	Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings	<i>Directed to the Animals and Plants Committees</i>	The Animals and Plants Committees shall, taking into consideration the current guidance in Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Standard nomenclature</i> , paragraph 2 g), evaluate how nomenclature changes affect Appendix-III listings and propose further guidance and recommendations as necessary, for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting that address how such nomenclature changes are to be handled.
18.314	Nomenclature of Appendix-III listings	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee, in consultation with the Secretariat, shall at its 73rd meeting take into account the guidance and recommendations from the Animals and Plants Committees and make recommendations to address nomenclature changes that affect an Appendix-III listing, including possible amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) or Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Inclusion of species in Appendix III</i> , for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

18.315	Nomenclature of Manidae spp.	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall examine the taxonomy and nomenclature of pangolins (Manidae spp.) and will propose a way forward to clarify a listing of pangolins on the Appendices.
17.312 (Rev. CoP18)	Nomenclature (Bird family and order names)	<i>Directed to the Animals Committee</i>	The Animals Committee shall: a) evaluate the results of the analysis [of the implications of adopting a new standard nomenclature reference for birds at the family and order level]; and b) develop a recommendation for decision at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
16.162 (Rev. CoP18)	Annotations	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee, Animals Committee, Plants Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall re-establish the working group on annotations, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, recognizing that the Animals and Plants Committees are an important source of expertise and advice to Parties on such scientific and technical issues. The group shall include, but not be limited to, members from the Standing Committee, Animals Committee, Plants Committee, observer Parties, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, enforcement authorities, including customs, and industry representatives. The Standing Committee shall particularly endeavour to ensure balanced representation of importing and exporting Parties. The terms of reference for the working group shall be: a) in close collaboration with ongoing efforts in the Plants Committee, to continue reviewing the appropriateness and practical challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices, including but not limited to those on the tree species, of the agarwood-producing taxa (<i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp.), <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> , <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> and orchids, and to identify options to streamline these annotations taking into account the guidance provided by Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP18) on <i>Use of annotations in Appendices I and II</i> ; b) to develop or refine definitions of terms used in current annotations as appropriate, including but not limited to the terms “musical instruments” and “transformed wood”, and submit them for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices; c) to conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing, Animals or Plants Committee; and d) to prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for consideration at the 73rd and 74th meetings of the Standing Committee.
18.316	Annotations	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall, in collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, determine requirements for development and adoption by the Conference of the Parties of: a) a mechanism for undertaking a periodic review of existing annotations; and b) a mechanism for the <i>a priori</i> review of annotations proposed for consideration at meetings of the Conference of the Parties, to support consistent implementation of the guidance on annotations provided in Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP18).

18.317	Annotations	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall explore the feasibility of, and the requirements for developing an information system for the purpose of processing trade data associated with transactions in specimens of CITES-listed tree species authorized under the provisions of the Convention.
18.318	Annotations	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are invited to consult with relevant stakeholders and provide to the Secretariat information regarding the mechanisms proposed in Decision 18.316; the definitions proposed in paragraph b) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18) and the practical challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices, including but not limited to those on the rosewood-tree species, agarwood-producing taxa (<i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp.), <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> , <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> and orchids proposed in paragraph a) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18), and provide examples of practical solutions identified when handling those challenges.
18.319	Annotations	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall, in consideration of work under Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18) and the report submitted by the Secretariat required under Decision 18.320, if appropriate, make recommendations for submission to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.320	Annotations	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties requesting input pursuant to Decision 18.318 and provide a summary of the responses received from Parties, and provide recommendations regarding the mechanisms and the information system proposed in Decision 18.316, the definitions to be developed under paragraph b) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18) and the challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices to the Standing Committee.
18.321	Annotation #15	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall: a) subject to available resources, undertake a study to assess the effect on <i>Dalbergia/Guibourtia</i> species in international trade of the exemptions contained in Annotation #15 for finished musical instruments, parts and accessories, and the conservation implications thereof; b) bring any scientific or technical issues to the attention of the Plants Committee and seek its advice; and c) report the results of its evaluation along with its recommendations to the Standing Committee.
18.322	Annotation #15	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall in the context of its work on annotations under the relevant Decisions, consider any report by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.321, undertake additional evaluation if necessary and report to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. If warranted, the Standing Committee may work with relevant Parties in preparing an amendment proposal for the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

18.323	Annotation of Cape aloe (<i>Aloe ferox</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties after one year of the conclusion of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties requesting the following information: a) whether, and if so how, the amended annotation #4 has impacted the international trade in <i>Aloe ferox</i> specimens; and b) whether, and if so how, the amended annotation #4 has affected the population size, distribution, status and harvest of <i>Aloe ferox</i> .
18.324	Annotation of Cape aloe (<i>Aloe ferox</i>)	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	The Secretariat shall compile responses from the Parties as requested under Decision 18.323 and provide these responses to the Plants Committee.
18.325	Annotation of Cape aloe (<i>Aloe ferox</i>)	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall review the information received as requested under Decision 18.324 and other relevant information available regarding the status, management, and international trade in <i>Aloe ferox</i> , with a view to assessing whether the exemption of finished products of <i>Aloe ferox</i> packaged and ready for retail trade from CITES regulation have had any impacts on the natural populations of the species. Based on the outcome of this review, the Plants Committee shall formulate recommendations concerning the listing of <i>Aloe ferox</i> for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.326	Annotation of Cape aloe (<i>Aloe ferox</i>)	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Range countries, consumer countries, and other countries involved in the management, propagation, or trade of <i>Aloe ferox</i> are encouraged to provide information regarding the status, management, and trade in this species as requested under Decision 18.323.
18.327	Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Subject to available resources, the Secretariat shall: a) assess the potential conservation impact of exempting orchid products and derivatives (wild and artificially propagated) from CITES controls, thereby completing the work already initiated on orchids used in the production of cosmetics and personal care products, and considering orchids used in other commodities (e.g. medicinals); b) where necessary and appropriate to complement the assessment under paragraph a), seek pertinent information from Parties and relevant stakeholder groups, including industry, such as i) on the trade in orchid products from source to final product, including the identification of the major industry sectors involved in the trade; ii) how non-detriment findings and legal acquisition findings are made; iii) traceability along the supply and value chains; and iv) conservation concerns for wild populations; and c) analyse the information received under paragraphs a) and b) with a view towards potential conservation impacts of trade in products containing orchids and derivatives of orchids, highlight any knowledge gaps, and report to the Plants Committee.
18.328	Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids	<i>Directed to Parties</i>	Parties are encouraged to: a) submit pertinent information as requested in Decision 18.327 to the Secretariat; and b) provide assistance to the Secretariat in reaching out to other stakeholders and user groups that may be able to support this work.

18.329	Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids	<i>Directed to the Plants Committee</i>	The Plants Committee shall: a) consider the outcomes of Decision 18.327; b) in consultation with the Standing Committee, as appropriate, review the current annotation for Appendix II-listed orchids, and suggest amendments; and c) make recommendations to the Standing Committee.
18.330	Products containing specimens of Appendix-II orchids	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall consider the recommendations of the Plants Committee and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
18.331	Guidance for the publication of the Appendices	<i>Directed to the Secretariat</i>	Based on its experience, in consideration of the issues raised in document CoP18 Doc. 103, its discussions with Parties (especially those that amend legislation after each Conference of the Parties), and the recommendations of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on this subject, the Secretariat shall: a) in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees, develop guidance for improved clarity and predictability in the presentation of the Appendices; b) distribute the draft guidance by Notification to seek comments from Parties, and consider and incorporate comments as appropriate into a revised draft; and c) submit the draft guidance for consideration by the Standing Committee, incorporate comments from the Standing Committee into the guidance, and publish the guidance on the CITES website.
18.332	Guidance for the publication of the Appendices	<i>Directed to the Standing Committee</i>	The Standing Committee shall review the draft guidance and provide comments and recommendations to the Secretariat for finalization of the document.